

Happy  Easter

SUNDAY

*Hafa Adai!*

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 83

MARCH 23, 2008

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#### OPINION METER

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### Paint Mania

Paint is universally considered one of the easiest and cheapest ways to transform a room. But it can also be difficult.

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### Torture Death



Dorothy Dixon ate what she could forage from the refrigerator, while housemates used her for target practice with BBs, burned her with a glue gun and doused her with scalding liquid.

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### 5 Years After



Five years after U.S. troops invaded Iraq, there are many tears—though not everyone is crying.

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# WESPAC decisions nullified

## As Council approves ban vs purse seine fishing in CNMI

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

#### RELATED NEWS

WESPAC exec says sorry to NMI, Guam, A. Samoa. **PAGE 2**

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has voted to prohibit purse seine fishing throughout the exclusive economic zone surrounding the CNMI during a council meeting held on Saipan Thursday and Friday.

This decision, however, including all other decisions relating to Guam and Hawaii fishing, is now in question after WESPAC reportedly failed to give proper notice of the meeting with the Federal Register prior to the event.

This means that the Council must redo their March 17-18 meeting all over again, according to a *Pacific Daily News* report yesterday, quoting WESPAC member Manny Duenas.

See WESPAC on Page 4



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Council members and participants gather at the Hibiscus hall of Fiesta Resort and Spa in Garapan for the 140th meeting of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council Thursday.

## PEW to press advocacy for NI monument

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Despite the local government's lack of interest in the Marine Monument proposal presented by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the group will continue advocating for a marine monument in the northern islands.

See THREE on Page 4

## Poker robbery again

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

A man, considered by police as armed and dangerous, staged a broad daylight robbery at a poker arcade in Sadog Tasi on Good Friday.

See SUSPECT on Page 4



Saralu



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

### CULTURAL EDUCATION

Children at the Koblerville Youth Learning Center perform a traditional Japanese dance, as taught by members of the Tensuiren, Awa Odori Traditional Dance Group from Ko-Enji, Tokyo, Japan, during the Chamorro and Carolinian Language Heritage Studies Learning Community seminar for parents at the William S. Reyes Elementary School cafeteria Saturday morning. On April 17, guest performers from Tokyo will perform traditional dance numbers in celebration of the Awa Odori Festival at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.



# Around the CNMI

## WESPAC exec says sorry to NMI, Guam, A. Samoa

Complaints from Guam gov, officials lead to public apology

An official of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has reportedly apologized for any embarrassment he may have caused by his role "in improperly and aggressively meddling" in the affairs of Guam, CNMI and American Samoa.

The Western & Central Pa-

cific Network reported that, during his apology on Monday, March 17, Council vice-chair Manny Duenas reportedly told Council members he would be sending a letter to the various government officials, with copy to the Council.

Duenas' apology for "embarrassing" the Council was made

not once, but three times during the course of the Wespac meetings on Guam and Saipan, but even his apologies were not without controversy.

Duenas asserted that he was acting not as a Council member when taking the actions, but rather in his role as president of the Guam Fishermen's

cooperative.

"Council members are appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce and serve the public trust by advising the Secretary on fishery management policy. Such officials must be sensitive not only to avoid conflicts of interest, but also the appearance of conflict of interest," said the

Network statement.

"Once appointed, Council members cannot after-the-fact disassociate themselves from their Council seats. At the least they should be clear when engaged in any fishery policy issue what hat they are wearing, and ideally would never undertake any action that would tarnish the image of their Council. Duenas' actions were far below this basic standard of conduct," the Network said.

The statement said that this was not the only time that Duenas has acted aggressively and improperly on fishery management issues.

"Duenas recently attacked the respected Saipan conservationist, Angelo Villagomez, on a blog, calling him an 'idiot' with a 'coconut mentality.' The attack was related to a local fishing incident," the Network said.

Wespac executive director Kitty Simonds reportedly tried to downplay the issue which had involved the Governor of Guam

and other officials by calling it "a tempest in a teapot."

"What isn't 'a tempest in a teapot' is the Federal investigation now taking place at the request of U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman, chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform who on Feb. 5, requested the U.S. Government Accountability Office to "investigate the expenditures of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council."

Wespac is the federal agency charged by the U.S. Congress with setting fishery management rules outside U.S. territorial waters (from 3 miles to 200 miles).

This was the not the first time that WESPAC has been embroiled in a controversy. Recently, WESPAC was rebuked by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for allegedly spreading misinformation about coral reef matters in Hawaii and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (*Saipan Tribune*)



GOOD FRIDAY TRADITION

Hundreds of Catholic devotees patiently wait in line to touch the statue of Christ at the peak of Mt. Tapochau in observance of the annual tradition of Good Friday.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## Alien allegedly overstaying for more than a year now

The Division of Immigration has filed a deportation case against a Bangladeshi national who is allegedly an overstaying alien in the CNMI for more than a year now.

With the filing of the case, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman ordered Chandran U. Kandiah to appear in court on March 27 at 1:30pm to explain why he should not be deported from the CNMI.

Immigration investigator Nicolas R. Reyes said that Kandiah's nonresident worker's entry permit issued July 10, 2006, already expired on Feb. 4, 2007.

Reyes said the respondent did not file any labor case and

was never issued any temporary work authorization to get a new job.

The investigator said the Bangladeshi national failed to submit a new application for his nonresident worker's permit at the Department of Labor Processing Section.

He said Kandiah also did not submit a nonresident worker's application for consensual transfer to another employer.

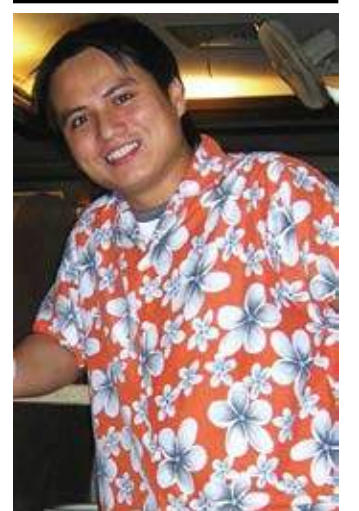
"The respondent has failed to comply with the terms of his entry and is therefore a deportable alien pursuant to Commonwealth law and regulation," Reyes alleged. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## Bordallo mourns passing of brother-in-law

Guam Rep. Madeleine Bordallo issued a statement yesterday on the passing of Fred Bordallo, the brother of the late Guam Gov. Ricky Bordallo and the congresswoman's brother-in-law.

"Today I join my Bordallo family and our community in mourning the passing of my dear brother-in-law Fred Bordallo. Fred will always be fondly remembered for his humorous spirit and the laughter he brought into all our lives.

"I was fortunate and blessed to be able to visit with Fred and his family during his final moments, and I will always be comforted in knowing this. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Annie, their children and grandchildren, family and many friends. Fred will be dearly missed by all who knew him," said Bordallo. (*PR*)



BIRTHDAY BOY

Happy birthday greetings go out to Jhey Pineda, who is celebrating his birthday today, March 23. Greetings come from your family, friends, and colleagues at Shirley's Susupe.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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# Discrimination suit filed vs defunct garment firm

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

An alien worker has filed a discrimination lawsuit in federal court against defunct garment manufacturer Poong-In Saipan Inc.

Reynaldo L. Garcia, a Filipino, alleged that because of his national origin, Poong-In did not renew his employment contract and instead hired some Chinese nationals.

Attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, counsel for Garcia, argued that the company's discharging plaintiff on account of his national origin constitutes an unlawful employment practice in violation of U.S. law.

Garcia asked the U.S. District

Court for the NMI to order the defendant to pay him damages, lost earnings, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Woodruff stated in the complaint that Garcia was hired by Poong-In as a maintenance mechanic sometime in 2004.

Garcia remained with the company until his contract expired on July 9, 2006, after which he was not renewed.

Woodruff said that during Garcia's employment with Poong-In, he was variably assigned as a packer, mechanic, and security guard. Garcia's was last assigned as a packer at the packing section.

"Defendant freely reshuffled, assigned and moved its workers from one work assignment to

another work assignment, such as from sewer to packer and vice-versa," he said.

The lawyer noted that Garcia performed his job in a satisfactory and exemplary manner.

The factory's resident manager, Woodruff said, even cited Garcia as being "a well rounded employee" who "has a very positive attitude" and "who can speak fluently in different kind of languages such as Chinese, English and Filipino."

"Despite his stellar work performance and exceptional qualifications, on June 16, 2006, defendant informed him in writing that his employment contract was not going to be renewed. No reason was stated in the written notice," he said.

Woodruff said that when asked by plaintiff why his contract was not being renewed, general manager Mr. Byung Bok Lee told him that "there are too many people in the packing section."

At that time, Garcia was the only Filipino of the more than 50 workers at the packing section, a majority of whom, if not all, were Chinese nationals.

"Plaintiff was informed that most, if not all, of the Chinese workers assigned at the packing section were subsequently renewed by defendant," Woodruff said.

He said approximately 15

Chinese workers assigned in various sections and whose employment contracts were expiring around the expiration date of plaintiff's contract were all renewed.

After Garcia's discharge, the company hired more workers from China, Woodruff said.

The lawyer said that Poong-In's reason for terminating Garcia that "there are too many people in the packing section" was not true because after his non-renewal, Poong-In renewed most, if not all, of the Chinese workers assigned with him at the packing section, and even hired more

workers from China.

"The reason offered by defendant for not renewing plaintiff's employment contract was pretextual because plaintiff was actually discharged due to his national origin," he added.

On Jan. 28, 2008, the Afetnas-based Poong-In shut down its factory, rendering over 100 alien workers jobless.

Like the other factories that also closed, Poong-In's reasons for folding were the rising cost of labor, the increased competition from China and other Asian countries, and the increased costs of doing business in the CNMI.

## Military sets aerial survey on Farallon

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam, said that the U.S. military would be conducting an aerial survey on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla on March 24, 2008, from 6am to 7pm.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public, especially fisher-

men, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO's Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (EMO)

## Positions open for GOP nat'l convention

The CNMI Republican Party is pleased to announce the availability of the following positions for interested individuals from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to participate in the upcoming Republican National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota from Sept. 1 to 5, 2008.

The following programs are available:

- Page program—applicant must be at least 16-25 years old;
- Intern program—applicant

must be currently enrolled at any postsecondary educational institution; and

- Delegate aide—applicant must be able to assist the delegation and be at all meetings called by the chairman.

All expenses to attend the RNC convention must be the responsibility of the applicant.

Interested individuals must submit a letter of intent, resume, and complete an application. Deadline is April 15, 2008.

Final selection will be made by the RNC Committee on Ar-

rangements.

Submit the required documents through email at [anatergeyo@gmail.com](mailto:anatergeyo@gmail.com). (PR)

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# DPS to deploy more cops, medics for Easter

The Department of Public Safety will be deploying police officers and medics to ensure the safety of the Catholic faithful who will attend this morning's Easter Sunday Mass at the peak

of Mt. Tapochau.

DPS Traffic Commander Sgt. Thomas Blas told the media that, similar to what the department did during the Mt. Tapochau trek on Good Friday, it will be fielding

police officers to handle traffic and ground control on the mountain for today's Easter Sunday Mass.

Blas said medics would also be prepositioned for assistance in case of emergency situations.

"We want to make sure that we have access for everybody in there," he said.

The traffic commander appealed to the devotees to comply with the officers, particularly on

passage of vehicles.

"People who have passes are allowed to use vehicles up the hill as well as the handicapped and elderly people. We are going to limit vehicles' access out

there to the general public as much as possible," he said.

Blas said their only biggest concern is controlling the traffic for vehicles going up and down Mt. Tapochau. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## WESPAC failed to first notify Federal Register

From Page 1

All decisions made at the meeting are nullified, Duenas told PDN. Duenas said notice of the meeting was lost in translation.

"Somewhere in the communication network, it fell through a crack," he said in the PDN article. "We are not sure whose fault this is. We even question if the council needs to be reimbursed for the cost of this re-meeting."

To save on costs, Duenas told PDN that the replacement meeting will be held by teleconference, or in Hawaii. It has not yet been scheduled.

A Western & Central Pacific Network statement reported the same issue, saying that the Guam and Saipan meetings cost an estimated \$50,000 to \$60,000.

"All business conducted during the Wespac meeting...will have to be redone...not including the cost of another meeting. At this writing, it is not clear why. As this was not an official meeting of Wespac, there will need to be a new meeting before the scheduled 141st meeting," said the Network statement.

In the meantime, a new Federal Register notice must be published at least 21 days before the meeting, explaining the problem, and noting that all records of this meeting will be on file at Council library before that meeting for anyone to review.

This information may or may not appear on the WESPAC Web site <http://www.wpcouncil.org>. After the official notice, the Council will then meet again in Honolulu to vote anew on all actions items. The new meeting is expected to be quite truncated, with minimal discussion, full opportunity for public comment, and then voting.

"What does this all mean? At a minimum, this would allow supporters of the proposed CNMI Monument to refute misinformation generated by WESPAC, and it also puts purse seine exclusion zones passed for Guam and Saipan in jeopardy. Bottom line, WESPAC administers the wild caught fish stocks similarly: all are either experiencing overfishing, currently overfished or collapsed and closed. Not a good record," the Network statement said.

### Prohibition

In its decision to prohibit purse seine fishing in the CNMI, the council said they were con-

cerned that the revitalization of the U.S. purse seine fleet, combined with the likely constraints on purse seine fishing effort in the Western and Central Pacific, may lead to increased interest by U.S. purse-seiners to fish in the U.S. EEZ surrounding the entire Mariana Archipelago.

It is also likely that new vessels augmenting the U.S. purse seine fleet will be based primarily in the far west of the region in Micronesia, the council said.

Earlier in the week, the Council voted on a similar purse-seine area closure for U.S. EEZ waters surrounding Guam.

There were also concerns expressed by Council members about purse seining close to seamounts due to their propensity to aggregate juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas, important to artisanal and scale fisheries for pelagic fishes.

The council pointed out that seamounts, especially shallow ones, "are also important fishing grounds for bottomfishing for snappers and groupers in the EEZs surrounding American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI."

Seamounts are biological hotspots in the ocean with high species diversity.

For these reasons, other countries in the region such as Papua New Guinea have specifically prohibited purse seine fishing close to seamounts in their EEZs.

### Longline fishing

The council also voted to establish a 30 nm longline fishing exclusion zone in the U.S. EEZ surrounding the CNMI.

The CNMI council members and members of council advisory committees who had met the previous week arrived at the 30 nm recommendation to protect the small scale troll fisheries in the CNMI, while at the same time encouraging the development of a locally based longline fishery.

When it meets in June 2008, the Council will consider establishing a control date of March 20, 2008, which may be used in the future to limit further entry of longline vessels to fish around the U.S. EEZ waters surrounding CNMI.

The Council also supported the Government of CNMI's request that a Secretariat of the Pacific Community's masterfisherman assist CNMI-based longline vessels in improving their performance and to provide more information on the potential of pelagic resources in the US EEZ surrounding the Marianas Archipelago.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

### HEADSTART TRAINING

CNMI Head Start teachers participate in a cognitive development activity during the Head Start meeting at the Napu room of the Pacific Islands Club Thursday. The meeting, which were attended by almost 50 teachers, focused on the assessment of their creative curriculum to make sure that it is consistent with the Head Start Program Performance Standards and also to sharpen the skills of the teachers. The event was part of the Public School System's annual Statewide Professional Development Program for school 2007-2008.

## Three northern islands eyed as marine monument

From Page 1

"Ultimately, this thing should be supported by the people of the CNMI. We've presented this to leadership—the Legislature, the Senate, and the governor. And we will continue to do presentations to this," said Beautify CNMI's Angelo Villagomez.

The group is pushing for the designation of the northernmost islands of Farallon de Pajaron (Uracas), Maug, and Asuncion and the waters surrounding these islands as a national monument, similar to last year's designation by President Bush of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The project is seen as a means to preserve the area as a protected marine habitat. All three islands are uninhabited and volca-

nic, but the waters surrounding them teem with life and as yet to be discovered new species of marine creatures.

House Speaker Arnold Palacios has strongly spoken out against having the northern islands in the CNMI turned into a marine national monument.

Also, a letter from Gov. Benigno R. Fitial opposed the marine monument designation "at this time."

Fitial stated in his letter to Pew project director Jay Nelson that, although he appreciates Pew's interest in the CNMI, "the government must fully consider all options and decide carefully, prudently, and strategically."

The Pew Charitable Trusts had written to the governor on Dec. 20 of last year urging him

to support the creation of the marine monument.

Pew Manager Matt Rand said the marine monument would bring much media attention from all over the world and create jobs for many local residents.

Despite these oppositions, Villagomez said the people of the CNMI are "ultimately" the ones who must ask the government to do this.

Nelson said that, if there is any kind of dispute over the designation of a marine monument in the CNMI, the Bush administration would not step into the fray.

However, Rand said that the CNMI is the "most special place for the President of the United States to consider having a ma-

rine monument located at."

According to the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, "the \$4 billion plus organization was instrumental in having 137,000 square nautical miles surrounding the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands proclaimed as the first-ever marine national monument and closing down the eight vessel limited entry bottom fish fishery located over there."

Villagomez said presentations on the marine monument proposal will be shown to whoever is interested in learning more about it.

"They can call me and we'll schedule something for those who want to see it," Villagomez said.

## Suspect identified, considered armed and dangerous

From Page 1

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Clyde K. Norita said yesterday that investigators were able to identify the suspect as Jesse Joseph Quitugua Saralu, also known as J.J. Saralu.

Norita said that police are now hunting down Saralu in connection with the robbery at Capitol Poker after the Superior Court issued an arrest warrant for him.

"Police are currently searching for him. Police are asking the general public for any information leading to the whereabouts of this man," the commissioner said.

He said Saralu was identified as the sole suspect in the Capitol Poker robbery.

The suspect was reportedly last seen wearing a dark pair of shorts with white stripes on each side, a dark tank top and a baseball cap.

Saralu was described as 5'10" tall, with short black hair and brown eyes. He is known to drive a sky-blue Nissan Altima with license plate ABZ-148 and frequents Koblerville and Tanapag.

"Because of his prior criminal history, Saralu is considered armed and dangerous. If spotted, the public is asked not to approach the suspect but to immediately call 911 and give


authorities his location and if in a vehicle, the description of the car he is operating, or riding in," Norita said.

No other information was given.

Saipan Tribune learned that Saralu robbed Capitol Poker at 11am.

The sister of the Capitol Poker owner was hurt when the suspect allegedly assaulted her in the bathroom.





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# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 83Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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## EDITORIAL

### Feeding greed

**S**oaring prices for corn, wheat and other agricultural commodities aren't just contributing to inflation, they're increasing hunger and misery among the poor. Confronted with a chance to help, Congress is instead on a path to boost corporate welfare for wealthy farmers.

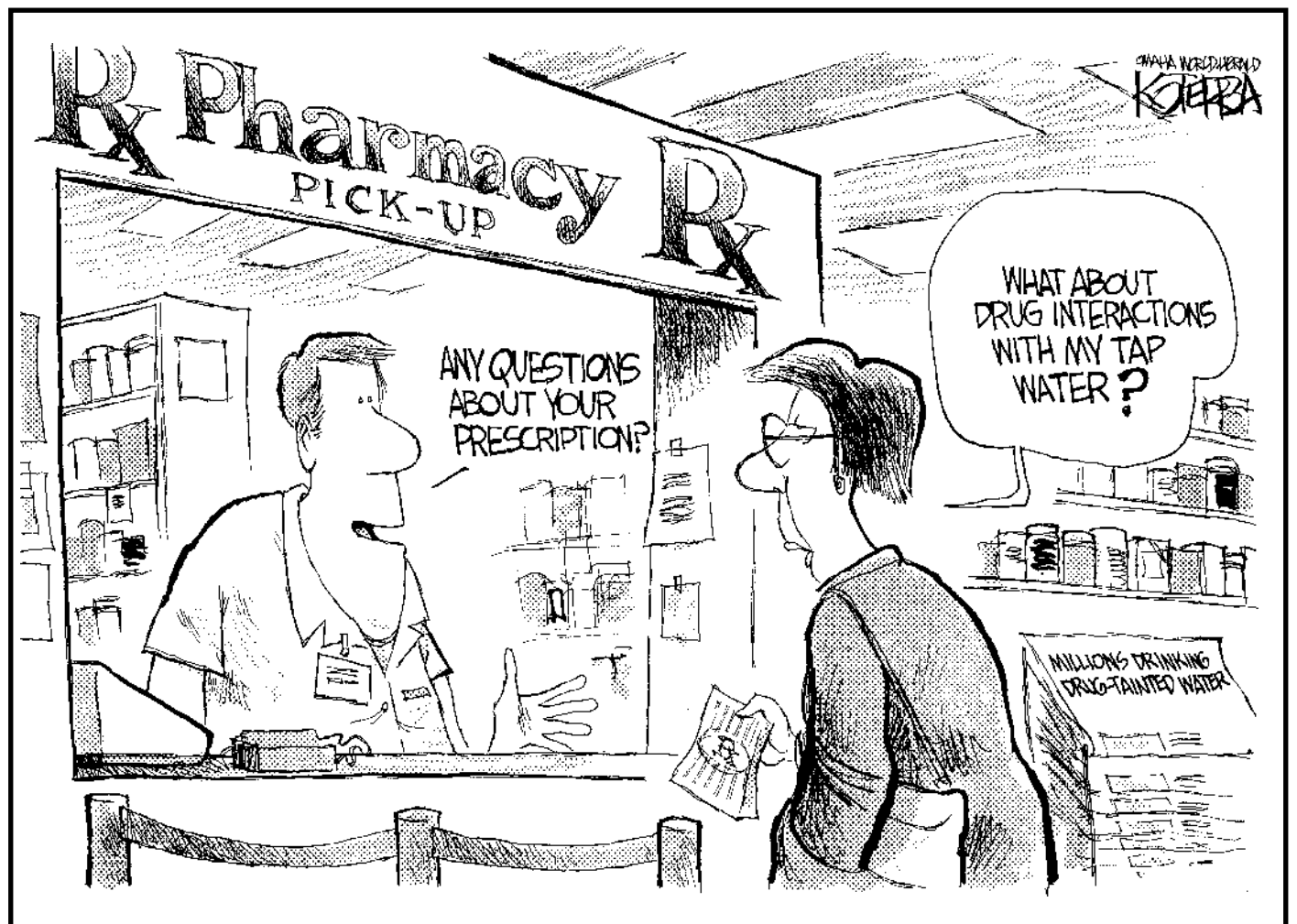
There is much to dislike in the most recent farm bill, the five-year plan for agricultural subsidies and food stamps, but there's something to like as well. The House version would increase spending on nutrition programs—mostly meaning food stamps but also including emergency domestic food aid and school lunch assistance—by \$11.5 billion over 10 years. That is a desperately needed life preserver for the indigent. Yet as the House and Senate struggle to reconcile their separate bills, they've hit a serious roadblock. They're about \$10 billion over their spending limit, prompting a veto threat from President Bush. That puts the gains for food stamps in serious danger.

For what it's worth, Bush is dead right. Congress is relying on accounting shenanigans to make the farm bill's numbers pencil out, and the bill continues to give outrageous handouts to millionaire farmers at a time when farm income is skyrocketing. The 2002 farm bill should have expired in October, but it has been repeatedly extended as Congress tries to break the impasse; the latest deadline is April 18.

As negotiators work to reconcile the bills and close the \$10-billion gap, they're fighting ferociously over one of the more obscene line items in the Senate's version: a new \$5-billion disaster-assistance program intended to help growers whose crops are destroyed by drought or flood. In practice, this would simply encourage farmers to plant in drought-prone areas, knowing the government will bail them out if their crops fail. It also would encourage them to farm on environmentally sensitive land now being held in the Conservation Reserve Program—mostly poor farmland that otherwise would be considered too risky for planting. The way the negotiations are proceeding, it's looking as if the nutrition budget will be cut in order to pay for this environmentally destructive handout.

The cost of eating at home has risen more than 5 percent so far this year, the fastest rate since 1990. Food banks across the country are reporting an increase in demand as the very poor are pushed closer toward starvation. For Congress to take food out of their mouths in order to shovel more money at farmers—who are enjoying huge profits thanks to the same high food prices that are hurting the poor—would be a disgrace.

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## No more excuses about slavery

**A**fter his pastor came under attack last week and before his historic speech on Tuesday, Barack Obama put his finger on the crux of the issue: "We've got a tragic history when it comes to race in this country," he said. "We've got a lot of pent-up anger and bitterness and misunderstanding."

Recently, I spent most of a year in one of the places where such emotions have created the "racial stalemate" that Obama spoke of Tuesday.

I was in Tennessee making a PBS biography of President Andrew Jackson, and while we were filming at the Hermitage, Jackson's home and plantation outside Nashville, I discovered that the exhibits were being updated. One thing being changed was how slavery was discussed.

For decades, the 200,000 school kids, retirees and vacationing families who visit the Hermitage each year have been told that Jackson was a "good slave owner." The historical justification for this description was that Jackson did not sadistically abuse his slaves or sell their children.

But today, there's little support among historians for any "good slave owner" designation. In Jackson's case, the fact is that he owned more than 140 human beings. And as historian Bobby Lovett of Tennessee State University puts it: "To enslave another human being, you can't be a good person. You have to be a pretty tough, vicious, mean person to hold another person or another 140 people in slavery for all of their lives."

And so, in 2007, the Hermitage began focusing on how brutal and hopeless the lives of the slaves who lived there were, instead of on how "good" their master was. And that's when things started to get ugly.

For years, Dave McArdle loved dressing up as Andrew Jackson, and visitors to the Hermitage delighted in McArdle's folksy way of bringing "Old Hickory" to life. McArdle is also the spitting image of Jackson, and we cast him as Jackson in our film. But just after we finished shooting, startling news arrived: McArdle had resigned from the job he loved—the job for which he was seemingly born—because he refused to work for an organization that made Jackson look bad because he owned slaves.

Soon after, we found out that McArdle held something close to the majority view in Tennessee. Our PBS biography of Jackson, which shared the Hermitage's new approach to slavery, has been attacked by white Tennesseans at screenings, in letters to newspapers and e-mails to PBS stations.

One viewer wrote: "I am outraged at the way you and professor Bobby Lovett, who appears in your show, portray Jackson's ownership of slaves as 'evil.' That kind of thinking is what I call 'present-ism,' applying the standards of today to Americans who lived in the past."

And there it is.

Bitterness and misunderstanding. A racial stalemate. Lovett is black, and I'll hazard a guess that most black Americans would con-

By CARL BYKER

Special to the Los Angeles Times

Byker is the producer of Andrew Jackson: Good, Evil and the Presidency.



sider his statement that it takes a "vicious, mean person" to enslave another person for their entire life pretty obvious.

But it's not so obvious to many white Americans. Even the lead academic adviser to our film, Daniel Feller of the University of Tennessee, doesn't think it's fair to see all slaveholders as "vicious, mean" people.

"Slavery needs to be addressed, but with a certain humility," Feller says, "because to me, the true understanding of history comes at that point where you stop looking at people in the past and saying, 'Look at what those bad people did. I wouldn't have done that,' and start saying, 'Well, under those circumstances, maybe I would have.'"

That's a worthwhile point to make—that most people throughout history can't just be categorized as good or evil; for the most part, they're just trying to get by as best they can with the hand they've been dealt.

And you can see why this argument appeals to some white Americans. After all, they don't think it's fair to have our nation's great accomplishments besmirched by a flood of recriminations over something that was a common practice 150 years ago. But it's also no surprise that the same argument infuriates blacks. After all, slavery and the 100 years of segregation that followed were truly horrible, and why can't white America just stop with the excuses?

Given how deep the misunderstanding is, maybe our big problem is not that we don't talk about race enough, but that we never talk about it in ways that will bridge the divide.

Perhaps white Americans should ask themselves: "What would it have been like to work 365 days a year from sunrise to midnight, with no hope of a better life? And to see my children living exactly the same nightmare?"

And perhaps black Americans ought to ask themselves: "If I were a white Southerner before the Civil War, would I have owned slaves if it meant a better life for my family? And would that have made me irredeemably evil?"

Throughout our history, Americans have been too angry and bitter to have this kind of honest, thoughtful national conversation. But I think it's time for us to get past our anger and not just because Obama says we should. After years of making historical documentaries, I'm convinced that the most important thing about coming to grips with our past is that it enables us to figure out who we want to be in the future.



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By **CARL POPE***Special to the Los Angeles Times*

Pope is executive director of the Sierra Club.



## Noah's Ark for salmon

**A**s global warming bears down on our Western rivers and watersheds, it threatens one of the great symbols of Western abundance: wild salmon. With each passing year, their numbers have dropped precipitously. This decline is believed to be in part the result of warming temperatures in streams and rivers.

Earlier this month, government fishery managers moved toward a ban on salmon fishing off the California and Oregon coasts because of the diminishing numbers of chinook salmon.

If we hope to save the salmon, we must do two things: Stop the rise in greenhouse gases as quickly as we can and secure our waters' health against the warming that has begun and will continue. This is a river-by-river job, and each river matters. But there is one part of the job that is critical -- the piece that unites sportsmen, biologists and everyone else who cares about salmon.

The biggest, wildest, highest, coldest, healthiest and best-protected salmon habitat left south of Canada spans millions of acres and thousands of stream miles in central Idaho, eastern Oregon and southeast Washington in the headwaters of the Snake River. It is Noah's Ark for salmon -- the haven they need to reach to survive and carry on.

Scientists believe the salmon that spawn in this place probably have the best chance of any salmon populations in the Lower 48 states to adapt to, and thus survive, global warming. This habitat, nearly all above 4,000 feet in elevation, will stay cool even as temperatures rise in other areas. It will give salmon the firmest footing from which to self-adapt in the face of warming. And because the area is protected as wilderness and public land, it probably will face less development pressure and could offer refuge for years to come.

In the face of the great flood, Noah had to build an ark, but this one comes already made. All we need to do is help the salmon get there.

The heart of the refuge lies in the Salmon River Mountains high above the Pacific Ocean, hundreds of miles from the coast. But the route between the ocean and the spawning ground -- the ark -- is choked by eight dams, which kill as much as 90 percent of the area's native salmon as they journey out to sea and back again.

If salmon are to survive climate change, four of these dams on the lower Snake River must go. Once the dams are removed, the salmon would be able to reach the ark, and scientists give such a plan a 50 percent to 90 percent probability of restoring productive populations. If the dams stay, the salmon will lose their best chance to survive global warming.

It is less expensive to remove these four dams than to keep them. The modest electricity benefits they offer to local wheat farmers can and should be replaced by clean energy sources, such as wind and solar power.

This does not mean we give up on salmon in southerly or lower-elevation rivers. We should continue to do everything we can to protect their habitats from logging and development.

But realistically, low-elevation rivers will warm more, putting salmon there more at risk. Filling the high-elevation ark with salmon is our best insurance policy against what global warming could do to these valuable fish.

We have reached a tipping point. Only four sockeye salmon returned to the ark last year, and in a few years the area's chinook salmon could also reach the brink of extinction. We must act now, and if we do, the odds of success are excellent.

Get out a map of America. Find the wild stretch of Idaho, eastern Oregon and southeast Washington through which the Snake River winds, a region with very few roads or towns, nearly all of it public land. This is Noah's Ark for salmon, the place fish must reach if they are to survive climate change. But the salmon can't do it on their own. Like Noah, we must help them to safety.

## An epidemic no one wants to talk about

By **ROBERT E. FULLILOVE, ADAORA ADIMORA and PETER LEONE**  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

**A** much-publicized study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this month highlighted the high rates of sexually transmitted diseases among teen-age Americans. But for those of us who work in public health, this "news" is already old.

A decade ago, the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine published a landmark report, "The Hidden Epidemic," examining sexually transmitted diseases in the United States. In 1995, the report noted, STDs accounted for 87 percent of cases of the 10 most frequently reported diseases in the nation. Despite the huge costs that such infections imposed on our health-care system, awareness of their importance was all but absent from the public consciousness. We fear that this latest study will have its 15 minutes in the spotlight and also fade from view.

Sadly, our national silence may be related to our difficulty discussing the roles that race and poverty play in these trends. In 2005, for example, the rate of gonorrhea (a curable STD) among African-Americans was 18 times greater than the rate among whites. The contrast in rates for HIV-AIDS, syphilis and chlamydial infection among blacks and whites is only slightly less dramatic. These diseases cost tens of billions of dollars each year, but with the exception of HIV infection, STDs remain the elephant in the room when it comes to the national conversation about health and health care.

One obvious reason is that conversations about sexual behavior, race and sexually transmitted infections remain taboo. Another is that the incidence of many STDs, particularly HIV, is concentrated in poor, segregated neighborhoods that are characterized by high rates of incarceration. Inner-city populations of African-Americans and Latinos account for almost two-thirds of the 2.2 million Americans in prison nationwide, and two disturbing trends are increasingly present in these communities.

One is the shift in the patterns of marriage and courtship that result when so many men are removed from a community. The other is an increase in the number of "multiple concurrent sexual partnerships," in which individuals are engaged in sexual relationships with more than one person at a time. In many communities, when one sexual partner is imprisoned, the person left behind chooses an-

other partner. When widespread, this behavior creates an efficient, effective pattern for introducing and maintaining an STD through a network of sexual relationships.

Concurrent sexual partnerships, our research indicates, are a more effective engine for transmitting STDs than sequential partnerships. In the latter case, an infected individual is more likely to be diagnosed before a new partner is infected. In the former, an individual infected by one partner can immediately pass the infection on to another, potentially spreading it quickly through the network. As people move in and out of relationships and in and out of communities, such infections become almost impossible to treat efficiently. Movement in and out of prison aggravates these trends.

We can no longer have effective STD prevention campaigns in poor communities of color if they treat one person at a time or ignore the social conditions underpinning high rates of HIV and other STDs. For one thing, women in poor African-American communities who engage in the lowest levels of risk behavior are dramatically more likely to acquire STDs than higher-risk women in communities with low background rates of infection. Where you live and choose sexual partners has an enormous impact on your risk, particularly if it is in a community with high incarceration rates. Imprisonment changes community male-female ratios, and these unbalanced numbers contribute to low marriage rates, a reluctance to negotiate "safe sex," formation of concurrent partnerships and the maintenance of STDs within the networks in which members choose partners.

Simply put, we will never rid the United States of HIV and other STDs if our only weapon is medical treatment. And if we are unable to engage in a national dialogue about the sexual health of our youths and the social dynamics that drive STDs, this epidemic will go largely ignored, and many more lives will be lost.

*Fullilove is associate dean of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. Adimora is an associate professor of medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Leone is medical director of the HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch of the North Carolina Division of Public Health. The authors were members of a panel convened by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in June 2007 to examine HIV and STD trends. The opinions presented here are their own.*

## Someone get Bernanke a Zoloft

**I**believe that Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke cares about me. Those dark, deep-set puppy eyes, the beard that hides the pain, that Benedictine haircut that must be self-induced punishment for something--the dude oozes empathy. If I needed \$100, I would definitely ask Bernanke. Or I might just take it from him. Bernanke does not look like a tough guy.

That's the problem. Bernanke cares too much.

The Fed's job is simple: Don't let the economy get too excited or too depressed. To do that, it gives the nation a steady supply of economic Zoloft. But Bernanke seems freaked out that his meds aren't working, and now he's getting taken advantage of. And because he uses taxpayers' money, we're getting taken advantage of. For two weeks, he's been acting like it's the last scene of "It's A Wonderful Life," only instead of giving cash to a kindly if slightly schizophrenic George Bailey, he's giving it to investment bankers. So really, it's nothing like "It's a Wonderful Life" and a lot like "Scarface."

Last week, Bernanke gave these investment banks \$200 billion—a quarter of everything the Fed has—as a loan in exchange for mortgage securities no one wants anymore. In doing so, he was brazenly "ignoring the moral hazard," which is an economic term for letting big companies know they can take insane risks and get bailed out by the government if it doesn't go well. This is also an economic term for screwing the little guy.

Then, Sunday night, in a mad rush to prevent a panic before global stock markets opened, Bernanke gave a ton of cash to JPMorgan Chase & Co. so it could buy Bear Stearns. That's got to be a sweet phone call to get from the government. "No, no, guys—not calling about taxes or trading infractions. Just—crazy question—we were sitting here and talking, and we wondered if you'd be interested in a huge wad of cash to buy your fiercest competitor? Really? Great. Also, we wanted to invite you to come over and have sex with us and never call us again if you don't feel like it. We've got ice cream!"

So for just \$2 a share—a \$28 savings from Friday's price—JPMorgan got 14,000 super-smart, super-mean employees, \$570 million worth of a building in midtown Manhattan and \$30 billion from the Fed. If Bernanke had just called me on Sunday, I totally would have bought Bear Stearns. Mostly to boss around all those jerky frat guys from college who work there now. "Josh, I'm going to need you to leverage the derivatives on lower-back hair. Can you do that by 5?"

Then on Tuesday, Bernanke dropped the short-term interest rate

By **JOEL STEIN***Special to the Los Angeles Times*

Stein is a columnist for the Times. E-mail Stein at [jstein@latimescolumnists.com](mailto:jstein@latimescolumnists.com).



to 2.25 percent—half of what it was six months ago—making it super-cheap to borrow money. The man has done more in the last month than any Fed chief ever. He has nearly proved the long-held theory that even if a Federal Reserve chief saved the planet, it would not make him any sexier.

All of his extreme action is predicated on the myth that we're entering the Second Great Depression. We're not. The run on investment banks Bernanke thought would occur this week didn't happen. In fact, if he had waited just two more days on the Bear Stearns giveaway, he would have seen that Tuesday's earnings reports from Goldman Sachs and Lehman Bros. were so unexpectedly good that the Dow shot up 420 points.

More important, nobody besides the Fed is panicking. People are bummed because their houses are worth less, but people were bummed because their tech stocks were worth less, their alpacas were worth less and their Ugg boots were worth less. But your average American isn't freaking out. A CNN poll this week showed that people's main economic fear is inflation—which is what you get when you print a lot of money, like the Fed is essentially doing by giving so much away. It makes money fun to borrow and not worth saving, which is how the trouble started in the first place. Plus, it makes the dollar fall, allowing Canadians to make fun of us.

I appreciate the Fed's frantic gestures, but housing prices really are plummeting, and I'd rather hit that bottom as soon as possible. It's a hard choice, but I'll take lower inflation, less national debt and a stable future over job growth right now.






So somebody has got to calm the dude down. Take him for a spa day. Or on a pub crawl. I can see Bernanke getting really into yoga—not the sweaty sauna kind but the one where you chant a lot of nonsense at the end. Better yet, invite the guy to join your fantasy baseball league. You know he'll overpay for A-Rod.



Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
				
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 84° ▼ 75°	▲ 85° ▼ 74°	▲ 84° ▼ 75°	▲ 85° ▼ 75°	▲ 85° ▼ 75°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 74
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 76
Majuro	Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 75

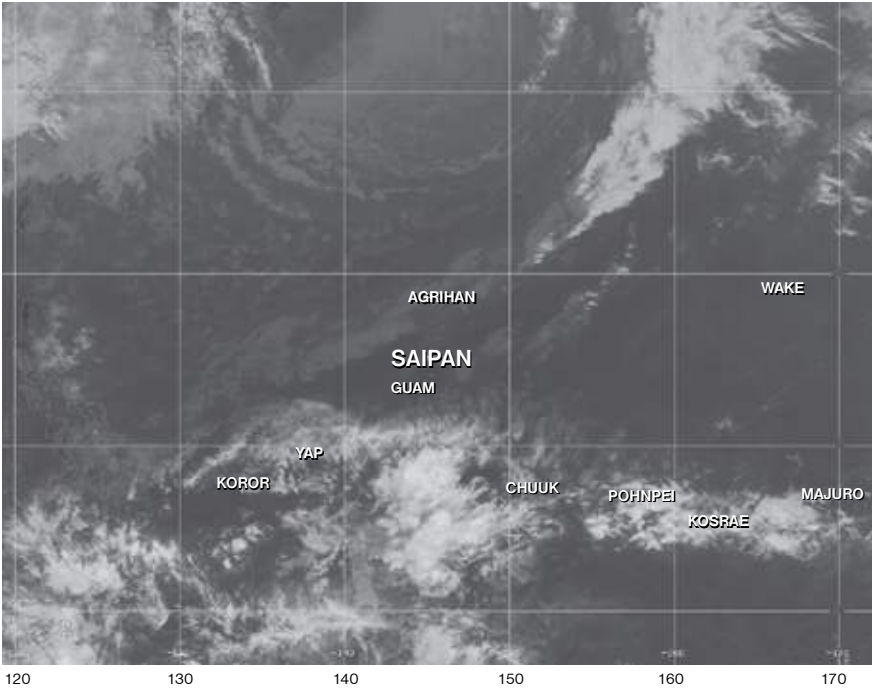
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Sunny	▲ 71 ▼ 62
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 57 ▼ 36
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 62
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 71
London	Flurries	▲ 39 ▼ 35
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 55
Manila	Cloudy	▲ 90 ▼ 76
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 63
Miami	T'showers	▲ 82 ▼ 67
New York	Partly Sunny	▲ 45 ▼ 34
Osaka	Showers	▲ 55 ▼ 47
Paris	Showers	▲ 40 ▼ 31
Pusan	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 39
Rome	Rain	▲ 53 ▼ 41
Salem	Rain	▲ 53 ▼ 39
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 65 ▼ 47
Seoul	Rain	▲ 50 ▼ 39
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 46
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲ 51 ▼ 35

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:42AM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
8:25AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
3:06PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:11PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



#### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SATURDAY, MAR. 22, 2008

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N158E to 20N151E then continues as a shear line to the north of Anatahan at 18N146E to beyond 130E at 12N. Scattered showers are found along and up to 160 miles northwest of the cold front and shear line. A surface trough runs northward from EQ146E to 10N140E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring well south of Guam in an area bounded by a line from 6N141E to 10N146E to 6N150E to 2N145E back to 6N141E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers within 100 miles of a line from 6N155E to 5N160E to 5N170E to 4N170E. This area includes Pohnpei and Kosrae.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:19AM	6:28PM
Monday	6:18AM	6:28PM
Tuesday	6:18AM	6:29PM
Wednesday	6:17AM	6:29PM
Thursday	6:16AM	6:29PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:40PM	7:29AM*
Monday	8:29PM	8:08AM*
Tuesday	9:20PM	8:49AM*
Wednesday	10:11PM	9:33AM*
Thursday	11:04PM	10:22AM*

\*Following Day

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- PICTURES**
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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN**  
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- For pictures:**
  - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
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  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Sunday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$182. Off-island subscription rate is \$376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 16, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 078 8:25am 1:30pm Daily via Nagoya NW 075 4:50pm 7:30pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:35am 3:05pm Daily NW 077 6:15pm 1:10am+1 Daily via Nagoya
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Manila</b> CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	<b>Manila-Saipan</b> CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:40am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 4:00am 7:35am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 6:50pm 9:35pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily				FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily				FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily				FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily				<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily				FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily				FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily				FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily				FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily				FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily				FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily				FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily				FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily							
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily							



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# Good Housekeeping

## Paint: Vivid talk pops up across the blogosphere

By ANNIE GROER  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

The baffled father posted a simple question online. “Any idea what color would be great” for the bedroom of his guitar-playing 13-year-old son?

Kate Smith’s answer, posted on her blog at [www.colorforyourhome.com](http://www.colorforyourhome.com), pulled no punches. Many teen-age boy rockers “tend to want black, white, gray with maybe some red, and while this may work for album covers and stage costumes, it can be unattractive and certainly unimaginative for a bedroom.”

A color trend forecaster now working on her own paint line, Smith suggested a deep blue-gray, such as Valspar Paint’s Dark Night. “If the room is small,” she wrote on the blog, “I’d use this same hue but go a few shades lighter.”

There are hundreds of blogs about furniture, design, decorating trends and must-haves for the home, with new ones launching nearly every day. They are written by experts and amateurs alike who happily dispense their opinions with varying degrees of authority.

In the past year, a few design blogs that focus heavily on paint and color have been started. Paint is universally considered one of the easiest, quickest and cheapest ways to transform a room. But it can also be the most difficult, with consumers overwhelmed by choices and

### A primer on primers

By ANNIE GROER  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

It’s tempting to paint walls without putting down an undercoat of primer, but experts know better. That’s because primer adheres strongly to surfaces, covers the old color better and helps the final-finish coats slide on smoothly and evenly.




Those qualities are particularly important when covering new drywall, when existing paint is in bad shape or when you’re making a dramatic color change, according to Gustavo Elias, manager of the Potomac Paint and Decorating Center in

Chantilly, Va. If you have your paint store tint less-expensive primer to match the final, costlier wall color, the job will cost less because fewer coats will be required. (At Potomac, a gallon of primer runs about \$28, while Benjamin Moore paints start at \$38, Elias says.)

And for a professional-looking job, Elias urges careful prep work before you pick up a brush, especially for older walls scarred by nail holes or numerous coats of paint: Fill holes with spackle and let it dry. Use fine sandpaper on all surfaces to even them out. Wipe dust from walls with a damp cloth and let dry. Then prime.

### The Big Names

A guide to the major paint brands.

								
	Benjamin Moore	Behr	Ralph Lauren	Sherwin-Williams	Valspar Signature Colors, Martha Stewart Palette	Pratt & Lambert	C2	Farrow & Ball
Price per gallon for flat latex	Starts at \$32	Starts at \$19.98	\$32	\$34.49	\$24.98	\$27.99	Starts at \$40	Starts at \$69.50
Sold through	Authorized Benjamin Moore dealers; find them at <a href="http://www.benjaminmoore.com">www.benjaminmoore.com</a>	Home Depot	Participating independent paint dealers; find them at <a href="http://www.ralphlaurenhome.com">www.ralphlaurenhome.com</a>	Sherwin-Williams stores; find them at 800-474-3794 or <a href="http://www.sherwinwilliams.com">www.sherwinwilliams.com</a>	Lowe's	Participating independent paint dealers and Ace Hardware retailers; find them at <a href="http://www.prattandlamert.com">www.prattandlamert.com</a>	Participating independent paint dealers; find them at <a href="http://www.c2paint.com">www.c2paint.com</a>	Farrow & Ball, 888-511-1121 or <a href="http://www.farrow-ball.com">www.farrow-ball.com</a>
Popular colors	White Dove, Shaker Beige, Navajo White, Monroe Beige, Linen White	Gobi Desert, Brown Treepie, Classic Taupe, Harvest Brown, Rejuvenate	Cottonwood, Devonshire, Thunder Bay, Parchment, Oatmeal, Tangier Island, Country Cork, Island Sand, Poplar Sand, Venetian Red	Dover White, Kilim Beige, Antique White, Alabaster, Solferino, Navajo White, Divine White, Nomadic Desert	French Bulldog Black, Brick Hearth, Hemp Rope, Spun Sugar, Barn Door Green	Sea Hawk, Toasted Wheat, Velvet Red, Designer White, Navajo, Balsa	Chai, Coconut, Buttermilk, Sandcastle, Cafe Latte, Thatch, Luxe, Beachburn, Shitake, Treachcoat	Pointing, Farrow's Cream, Borrowed Light, Light Blue, Cooking Apple Green, Shaded White
Interactive site	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No



Paint is universally considered one of the easiest, quickest and cheapest ways to transform a room. Rachel Perls, left, and Kate Smith are among the many bloggers who offer advice on paint color.

### Facts about finishes

By ANNIE GROER  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

You’ve found a color, but what about a finish? Flat paint hides flaws, but higher sheen is easier to clean. Charlie Boswell, president of Color Wheel paint and home decor stores in suburban Virginia, offers this guide:

Flat will not reflect light. It’s not washable and it absorbs stains. Good for ceilings and imperfect walls.

Matte is the lowest sheen that’s washable, scrubable and stain-resistant. Good for any room but a kitchen or a bath.


Eggshell gives “extra glow or richness,” Boswell says. It’s washable and resists stains and moisture. Good in many rooms, including bathrooms not frequently used.


Satin has “quiet shimmer,” Boswell says. It can be washed often and is very resistant to stains, moisture. Good for kitchens, bathrooms and homes with children.

Semigloss is highly reflective and very washable. Good for doors and trim.

High-gloss is mirrorlike and shows all wall flaws. (Consider having a pro paint this finish.) Good for molding, doors, window frames and accent walls.

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hungry for advice. This is where the Internet comes in.

Blogs are “such an easy way for people to get hold of information. They don’t have to have stacks of magazines and books. I really thought there was a gap that needed to be filled,” says Rachel Perls, 33, of Baltimore. A former pet portraitist who attended seminars at the International Association of Color Consultants and now advises residential and commercial clients, Perls started her blog, at [www.hueconsulting.blogspot.com](http://www.hueconsulting.blogspot.com), more than a year ago.

“Mostly people are asking about color courage and color confidence,” says Smith, 51, who lives in Lorton, Va., and began writing her blog last fall. People “come to my blog with an idea and ask, ‘What do you think?’ ... They don’t have the time or energy to make a mistake.”

Both blogs offer a highly accessible, personal dialogue on color, with conversation peppered with news from the fashion, art, entertainment, architecture and marketing worlds.

When a reader of Smith’s blog asked for ideas about

See PAINT on next page





THE WASHINGTON POST  
Victorian doors frequently include elaborate glass work.

# More than a way in and out

By MARY ELLEN SLAYTER  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Together with windows, doors greatly reflect the architectural style of a house, and should be chosen and modified with care, architects say.

Fancier isn't necessarily better. Your goal should be to blend the visual elements, said Kevin Harris, an architect in Baton Rouge who frequently works in traditional styles.

You can't successfully redesign your entire house with just the front door, he said. Too often, someone will want to improve a house, and will add a very elaborate door, such as one in the Queen Anne style. The new door itself may be "pretty," Harris said, "but it really doesn't help the house."

For consistency, he suggests that homeowners research the style of their houses. One resource he recommends is "Get Your House Right: Architectural Elements to Use & Avoid," by Marianne Cusato, Ben Pentreath, Richard Sammons and Leon Krier.

The choice of materials can influence how doors look, even if they're in the same style.

Only about 10 percent of the doors that Jeld-Wen sells are made of wood, said John Monfore, a marketing manag-



THE WASHINGTON POST

Dutch doors can be found in Craftsman houses. Choosing the right door for a home is an important architectural decision.

er for the Oregon-based door manufacturer. Twenty percent are fiberglass, often mimicking wood, and the rest are steel, he said.

Steel and fiberglass may appeal to budget- and maintenance-conscious homeowners, but the use of such materials in doors is restricted by some homeowners associations and historic districts.

Here's a look at a few broad categories of door styles commonly

found in American homes:

■ Colonial. Broadly speaking, in a Colonial-style house, you will find an "elegant" four- or six-panel door, Harris said.

■ Cape Cods. Cape Cods generally have simple plank doors, he said.

■ French Colonial. These doors are very distinctive, Harris said. Look for narrow double doors, with no dividers.

■ Victorian. These doors frequently include ornate

carvings and elaborate leaded glass, Harris said.

■ Craftsman. These wood doors can include a combination of panels or glass, Harris said. Dutch doors, which allow the top half to be open while the bottom is closed, also appear in houses of this style.

■ Contemporary. These doors are often characterized by their sleek lines, Monfore said. There can be lots of glass, and the door may be painted.

## PAINT

From Page 10

painting an accent wall blue, she posted Behr's Mexican palette, complete with photos of vivid interiors and exteriors and a link to Behr distributors.

"I'll get a product, use it and talk about it," she says. "I recently used Valspar's Brushed Pearl paint and thought it was the most forgiving faux finish I've ever used. I am so OVER faux finish, but it was perfect for the guest bathroom." She got 13 responses to her upbeat assessment of this paint.

Perls says her blog queries cover the spectrum from where to find a "yellow that doesn't look strange" to "Do these colors go together with these fabrics?" They want a right-and-wrong answer. There is no right-and-wrong answer. It's a reflection of their personal taste."

When "reader Christine" asked Perls for her most frequently recommended paints, Perls cited two "high-quality" brands: Benjamin Moore (for its color choices and "beautiful, long-lasting surface") and Sherwin-Williams. She also gave Pratt & Lambert a shout-out as "awesome for deep base colors like navy and deep, rich reds.

BM reds tend to be pinky. And SW has a significant problem with their deep base, and reds tend to run and streak."

She and Smith know well the limits of the Internet, including imprecise color and misinformation.

"It's hard to discern the professional from others who have cut-and-pasted," Perls says. Blogging "has turned everyone into an expert because there's no way to prove and disprove."

Each mentions the same old wives' tale that appears on design blogs advising against painting a nursery yellow because the color will make a baby cry. Nonsense, they say.

If credibility is one problem, color variation is another. This is why cyber-surfing for paint is only step one, warns Smith, a recent speaker at House Beautiful magazine's Color Institute at the Washington Design Center. Given the way computer monitors can distort color, she sees no substitute for painting directly on a large piece of poster board or a Tru-Hue color test board, which mimics a wall surface, then studying it in natural and artificial light.

"A computer can do a lot of things better than humans," Smith says, "but matching color is not one of them."

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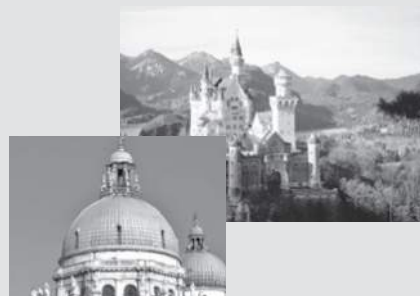
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## The Good Life

## Pillows: The inside story

By ROBIN WRIGHT  
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I love my pillows—the bigger and puffier the better. I’ve always thought of them as the ultimate allies, cradles of comfort outside the womb, the means to melt into peaceful slumber.

And I’ve been so wrong.

I started taking pillows more seriously after two shoulder surgeries on one arm affected my good arm, neck and upper back. The good arm became even more painful than the bad one. Among the myriad issues we explored, my physical therapist and rehabilitation doctor separately brought up pillows and what they’re really for—which is getting your wayward body back in line.

Since then, I’ve looked at pillows in a whole new way. The pillow, after all, is the inanimate object with which people arguably spend the most time—up to a third of their lives. Along the way, I’ve learned answers to questions I’d never previously thought to ask. Some of them made me shudder.

■ ■ ■

#### So how old is your pillow?

One byproduct of my research was learning about the health of the pillow itself.

On her Web site, Mercia Tapping, president of AllergyBuyersClub.com, recalled returning to her parents’ home and finding pillows that were at least 20 years old. “Moldy, smelly and stained,” she writes.

Repositories of body moisture, dead skin and drool, pillows offer irresistible digs to dust mites and fungi. A 2005 medical study of pillows—said to be the first since 1936—found up to 16 species of fungi in a single pillow. Testing both feather and synthetic pillows that ranged from 18 months to 20 years old, University of Manchester researchers found several thousand spores of fungus per gram of used pillow—a higher count than you’d find on a used toothbrush. A minute’s soak in hydrogen peroxide can kill the toothbrush spores; not so with a pillow.

And the consequences can be serious.

“Given the time spent sleeping, and the proximity of the pillow to the airway, synthetic and feather pillows could be the primary source of fungi and fungal products. This has important implications for patients with respiratory disease, and es-



If you believe that the value of a pillow is in its size or fluffiness, think again.

THE WASHINGTON POST

## Pillows through the ages

By ROBIN WRIGHT  
© 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Pillows can be traced as far back as Mesopotamia (today’s Iraq) and ancient Egypt. Head rests were found in pharaohs’ tombs. Early versions were for the privileged and rich, according to “Really Useful: The Origins of Everyday Things” by Joel Levy, but they were hardly cushy. Most were solid wood, carved or curved slightly in the middle.

For more than a millennium, Chinese dynasties used wood, jade, bronze, bamboo and porcelain for pillows, which were shaped like or decorated with pictures of animals, plants, humans or even geometric figures, according to [www.chinaculture.org](http://www.chinaculture.org). Hard pillows were preferred on the theory that soft substances robbed the body of vitality and

were bad for everything from blood circulation to keeping demons away.

The rich and powerful in ancient Greece and Rome used softer substances—from straw and reeds to feathered down. Embroidered pillows and cushions became fashionable in medieval Europe, where they are found in illuminated manuscripts, according to Cherie Fehman, author of “A Brief History of the Pillow in Europe.”

By the 16th century, pillows were increasingly commonplace, although the stuffing had to be regularly changed and the cases washed because of mold or vermin. Pillows were by then also taken to kneel on in church, while Bibles were often placed on their very own pillows.

Much of today’s bedding was developed in the 19th century but not mass-produced until the 20th century.

pecially asthma and sinusitis,”

Ashley Woodcock, the University of Manchester research team leader, wrote in the journal *Allergy*.

A dry steam cleaner can kill fungi, Tapping advises. So can putting a pillow in a plastic bag and freezing the pillow, which can also take care of mites. (Good to know, though I’m not sure I’d want to eat anything that had been in the freezer next to it—or sleep on a pillow with freeze-dried mites.) Some stores now sell dust mite covers for pillows. Alternatively, wool and natural latex pillows are more mite-resistant.

The average department store pillow lasts about 18 months, Tapping writes in a helpful treatise on pillow health—the pillow’s and the owner’s ([www.allergybuyersclub.com/perfect-pillow.html](http://www.allergybuyersclub.com/perfect-pillow.html)). “If you fold over your pillow in half and the poor thing just lies there, you have a

dead pillow. Time to bury it.”

Alpaca pillows are among the longest-lasting, she says.

■ ■ ■

#### Why is a pillow such a big deal? What damage can a pillow do?

“Typically, people like to use two or three pillows under their head, and they end up getting forward head posture” because the head is pushed unnaturally forward, out of alignment with the spine, explained Michael Uttecht, my Georgetown University Hospital physical therapist.

“The body will adapt to that position and assume it, which leads to a lot of neck tension, shoulder problems, headaches and then loss of range of motion in their neck as well.”

Avoiding pillows altogether is just as bad. You need something to prop up the neck and head so the spine stays aligned.

As people age, they generally

tend to develop forward posture—a kind of shoulder slumping, he explained. The problem has become more severe in computer-centered societies, as people hunch forward over their keyboards all day.

Sleep is the time to let the body heal and realign. But that requires the right pillow.

“If you see people on the street that look like they’re looking down, sometimes it’s a mechanical problem, sometimes it’s neurological, sometimes it’s orthopedic. But there are people ... (who) sit at their desks with their heads way forward, then go home at night and say pushing their head back hurts. So they stack the pillows, so the head is forward all the time,” explained John Toerge, a Georgetown University Hospital pain specialist.

“It starts to have consequences of wear and tear,” he added. “One of the big issues is try-

### Pillow Talk

*Having the perfect pillow will do you no good if you do not sleep on it properly.*

Your pillow should support your neck and allow it to rest in a balanced position by filling the gap between your head and the bed.



A too-high pillow can produce a “hammock-shaped” spine.



A too-low pillow can force the spine to curve against its natural curves.



SOURCES: Atlas Chiropractic, [www.spine-health.com](http://www.spine-health.com), [www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com)

BY BRENNAN MALONEY AND PATTERSON CLARK — THE WASHINGTON POST

ing to get to a point where you relax backward or slide backwards or go into an extension moving backwards, so you get into alignment and take care of what’s gone on during the day.”

Otherwise, neck and back pain can only get worse.

■ ■ ■

#### So how do you find the right pillow?

In the end, it’s personal choice. And the choices are many.

Once crafted from straw, wood and even porcelain, pillows now come in silk, wool, alpaca, latex, cotton, foam and “memory foam,” lyocell (from wood pulp cellulose), air pump-ups and many kinds of down. Some have built-in headphone outlets. Others use super-cleaned materials for sleepers with asthma and allergies.

One major healthy-pillow outlet offers a dizzying selection, including the neck pillow, comfort pillow, husband pillow (complete with two arms and a high back), back body pillow, Magniflex wave pillow, head cradle, Millennium pillow, grand pillow and the all-purpose pillow. It also offers a

back wedge, a back leg wedge, a doughnut and the back bed lounge.

Although somewhat alike, its “symphony pillow” differs from the “rhapsody pillow” because the former has “a gently arched side that provides head and neck support while the reverse side provides a traditional pillow feel for side sleepers.” The rhapsody is filled with shapeable micro-cushions. But the names don’t give consumers many clues about what they’re getting.

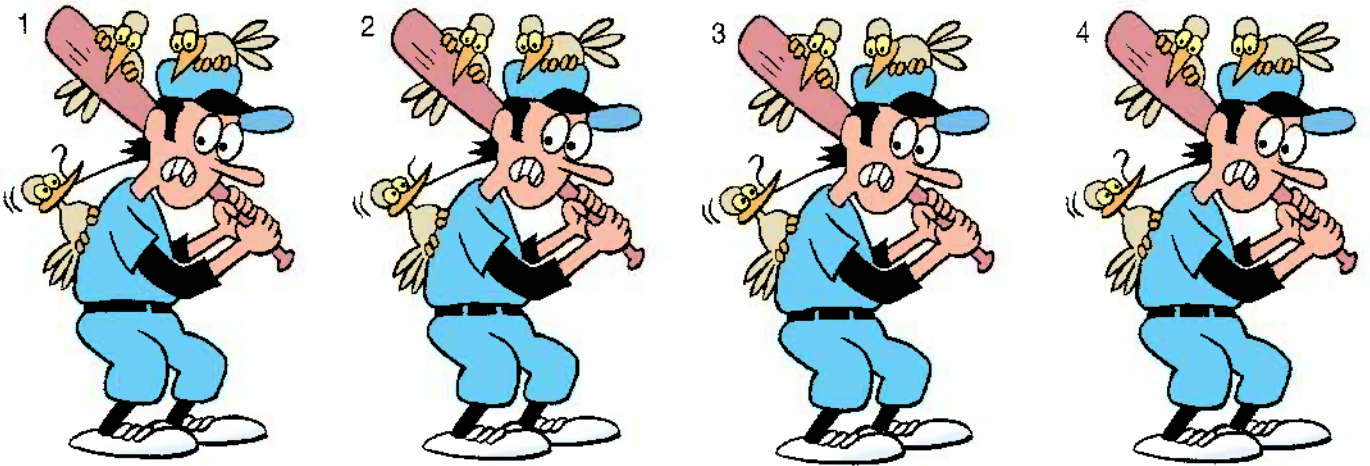
Health professionals offer tips for making tough decisions. The most basic is to try it out. Go to a store and spend 15 to 30 minutes with each product, Uttecht advised. “Get on a bed and see if it really fits. Bring someone along to check if your body is in alignment,” he said.

How you sleep determines a lot. For side sleepers, the nose-to-navel rule is a good guideline. The nose and the navel should be the same height off the bed. The goal is to align the back and head—and prevent the head from being propped above the spine.



# Bob Weber Jr.'s Slylock Fox and COMICS for KIDS

Which two scenes are exactly alike?



Answer -- Numbers three and four.

The security guard says Reeky Rat tried to walk out of the store wearing clothes he didn't pay for. The rat claims the clothes are his and he entered the store only seconds ago to buy a tie. Slylock Fox believes the guard. Why?

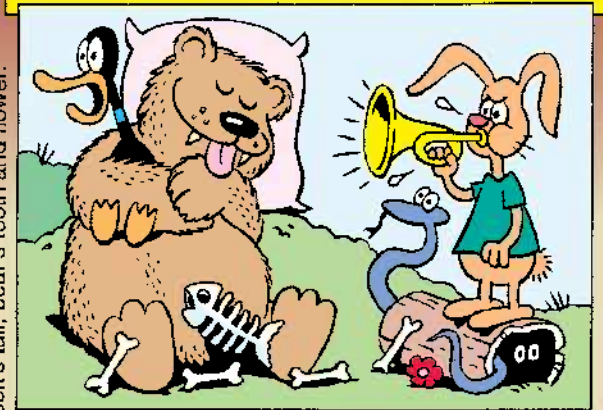
Solution -- The rat's clothes are dry. If he'd just come into the store, they would be wet.

Read and solve more Slylock Fox puzzles at [www.kidcartoonists.com](http://www.kidcartoonists.com)

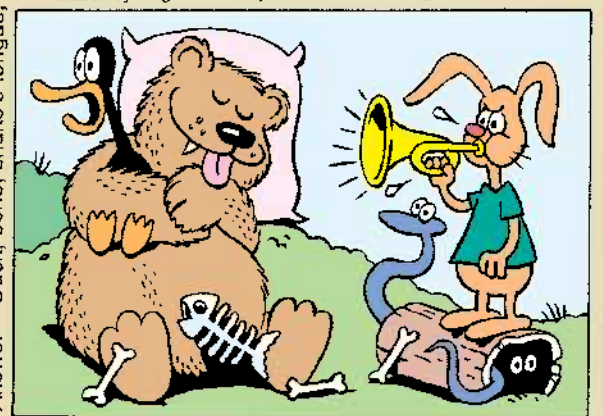


WEBER 3-23

Find six differences between these panels.



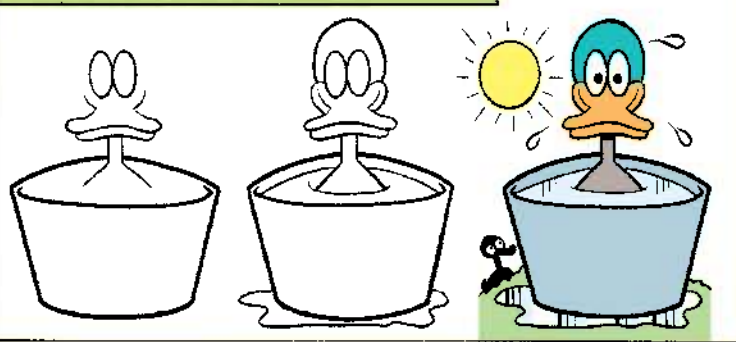
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Answer -- Duck, bone, snake's tongue, rabbit's tail, bear's tooth and flower.

New! The fourth Find the six differences collection is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

HOW TO DRAW a duck in a bucket



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YOUR DRAWING

Today's artist is Hannah Yo, age 10, of Stamford, CT



Submit your artwork at [www.kidcartoonists.com](http://www.kidcartoonists.com)

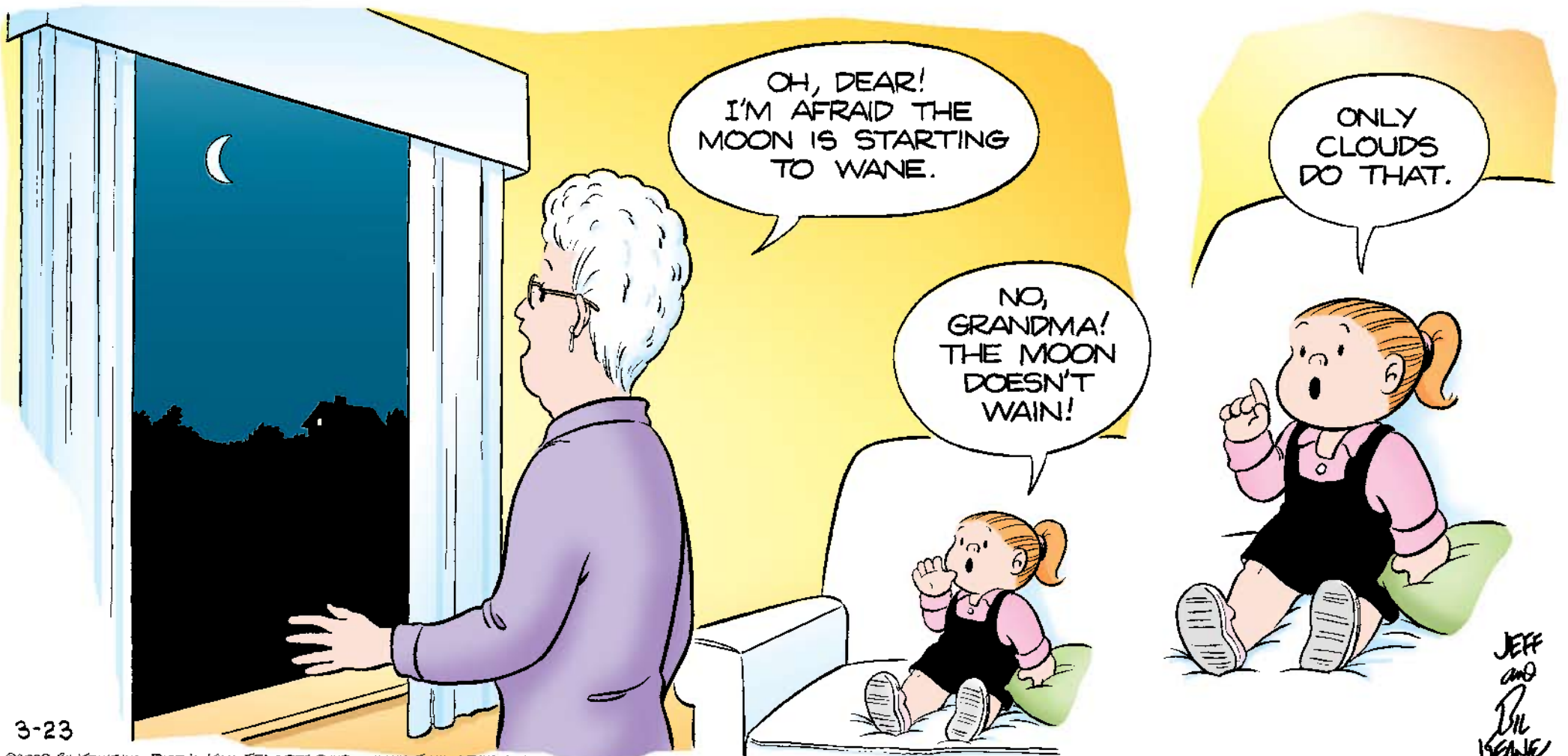
The scrambled words are species of bear. How many can you unscramble?

- 1) ZRLIYGZ
- 2) ADNAP
- 3) CLKAB
- 4) OAPRL

Answer -- 1) Grizzly 2) Panda 3) Black 4) Polar

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

By Bill Keane

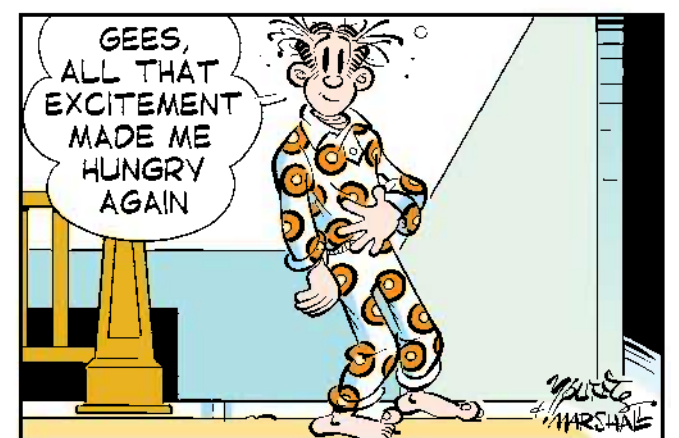
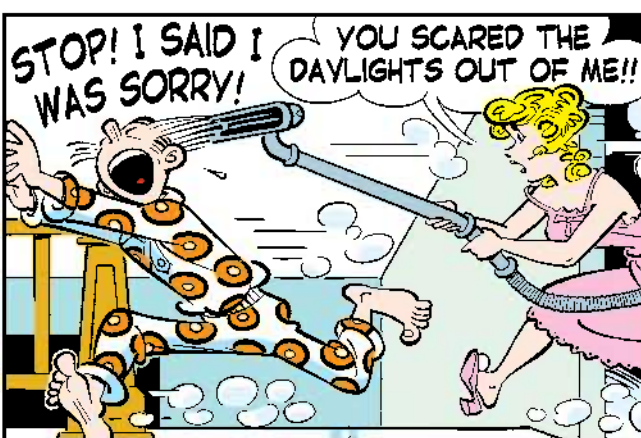
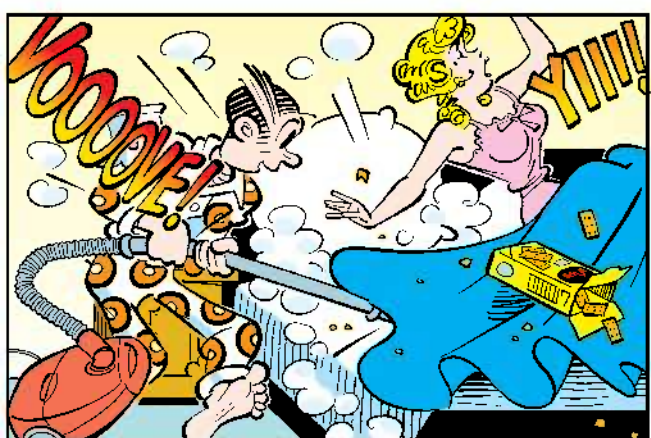
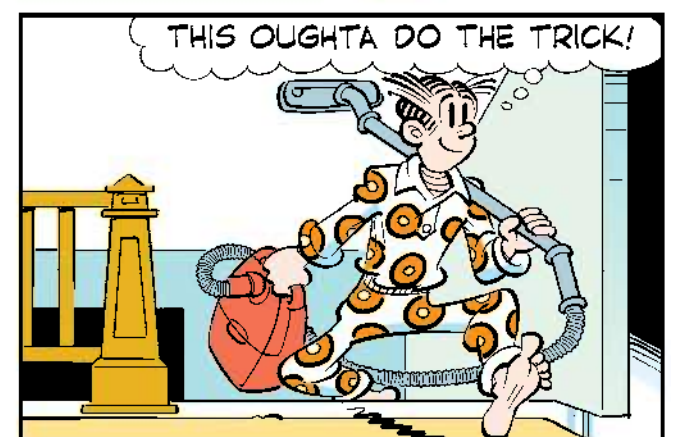
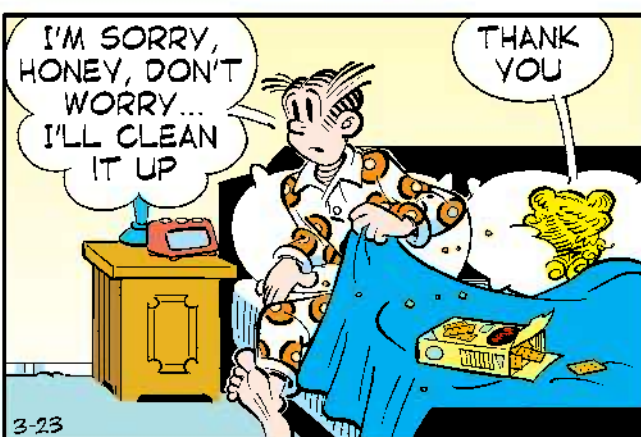
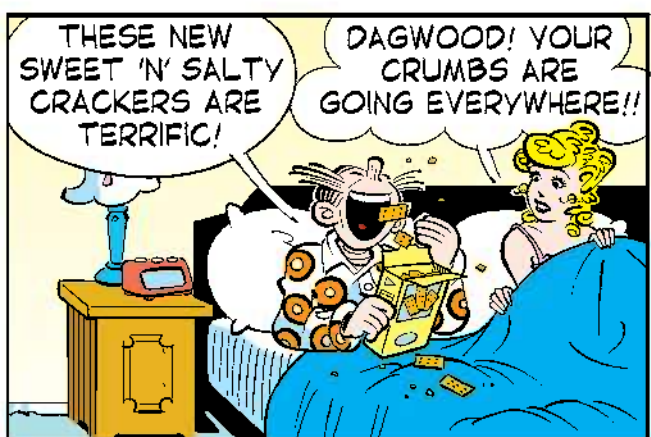
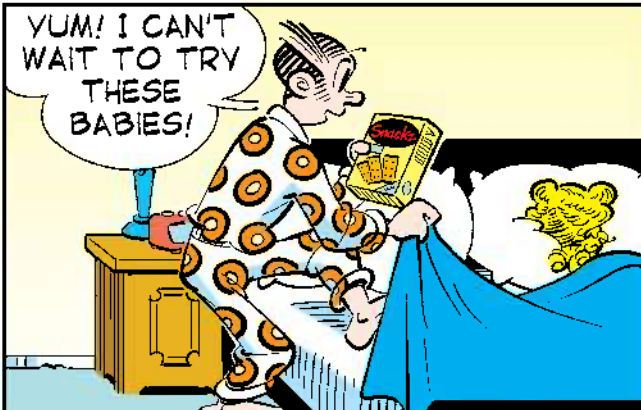
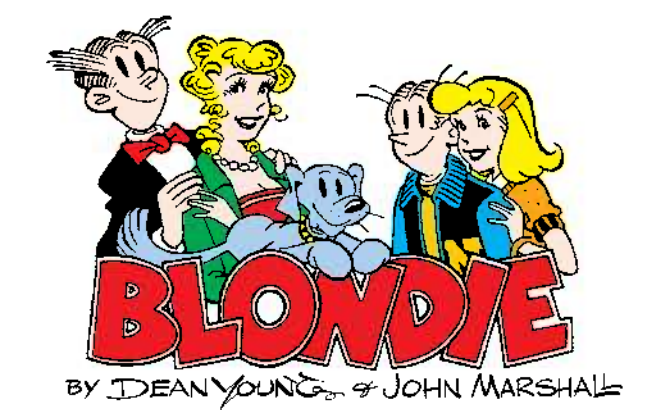
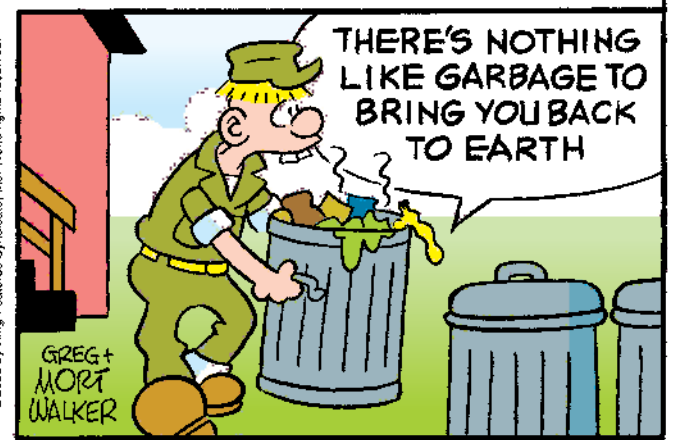
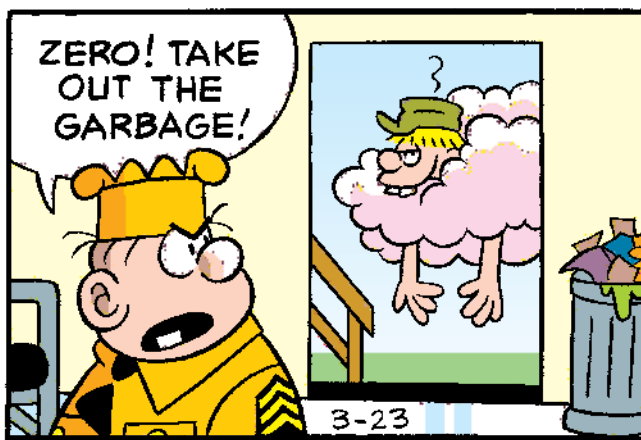
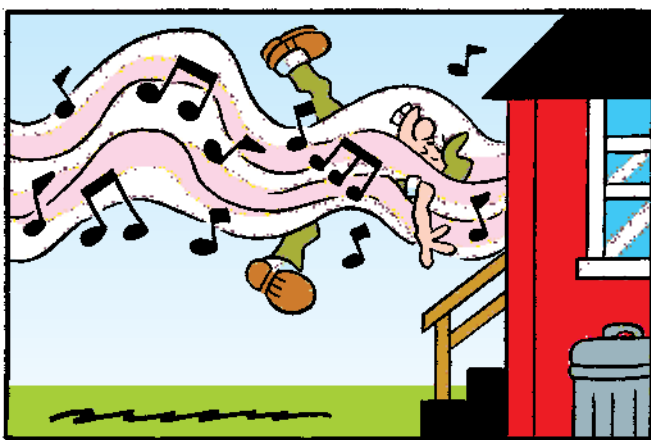
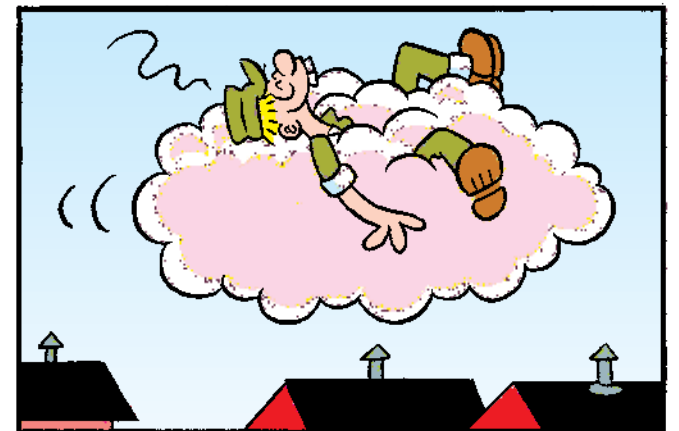
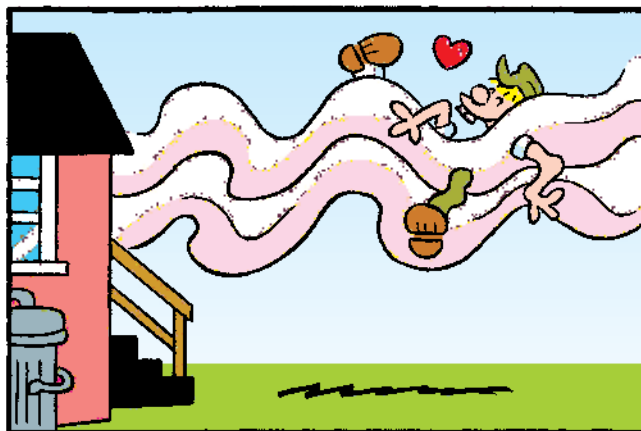
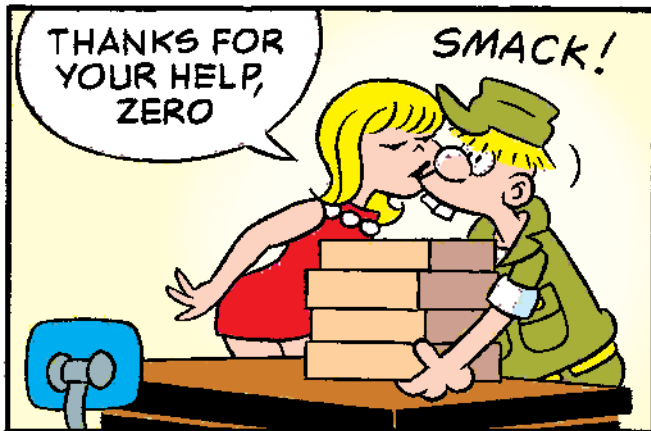
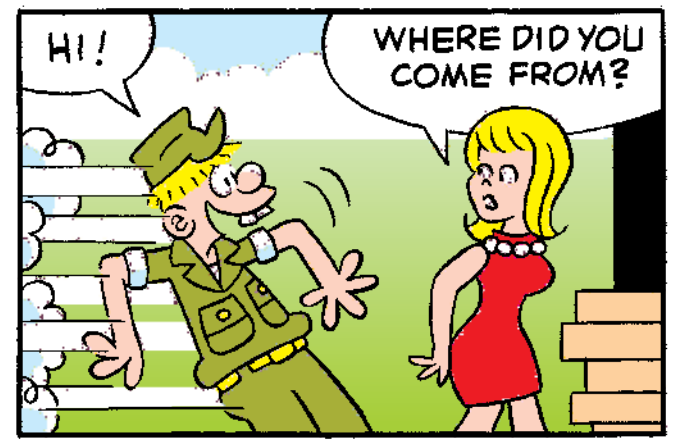
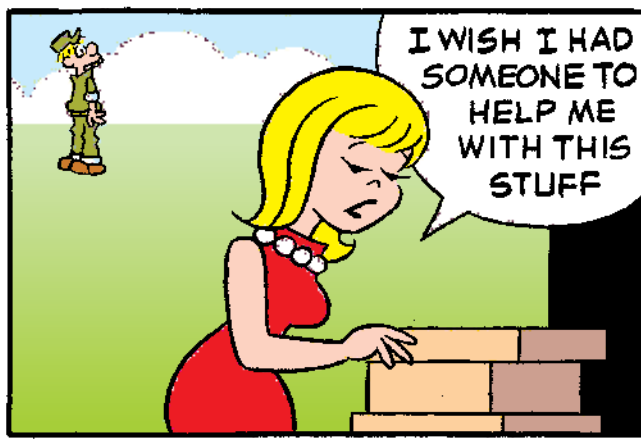
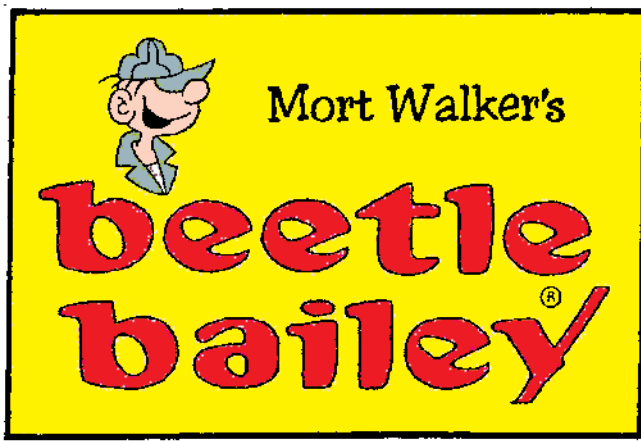


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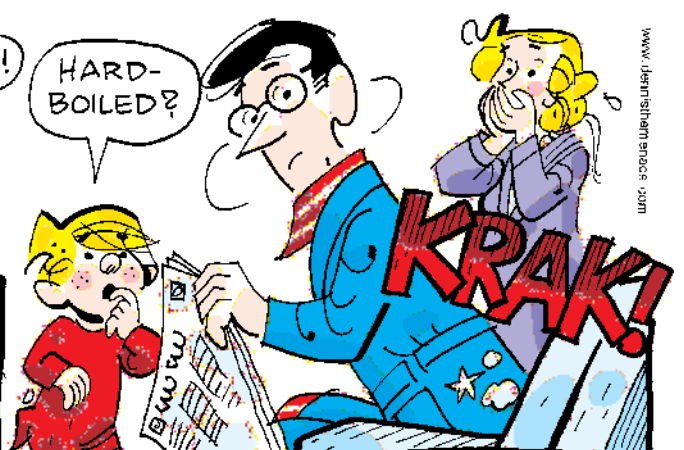
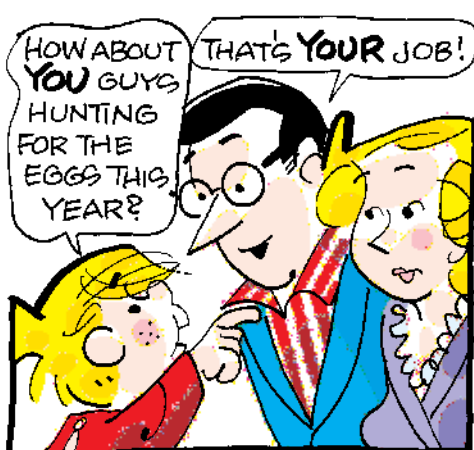
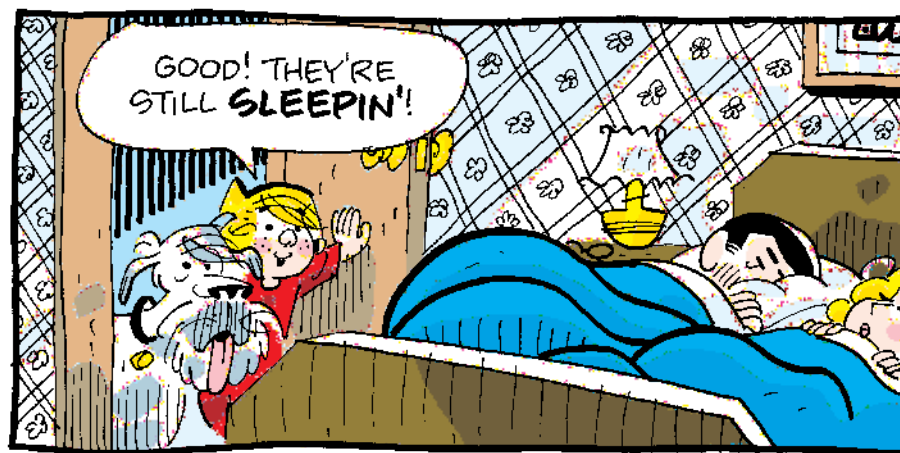
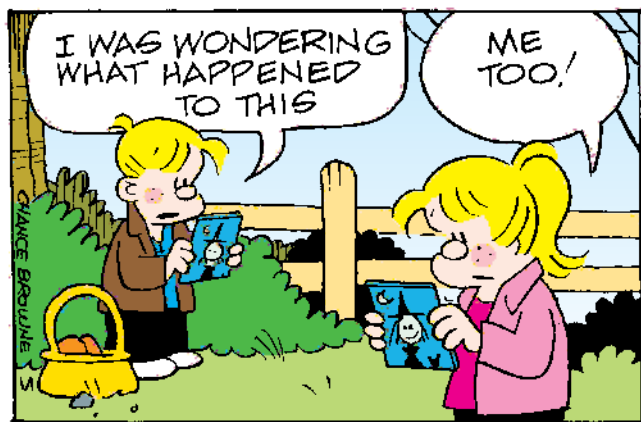
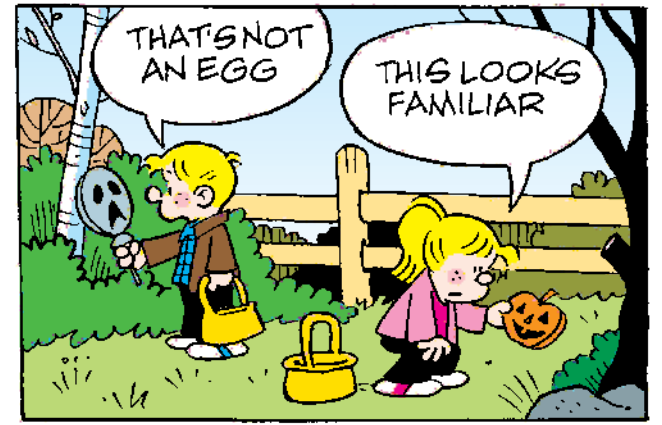
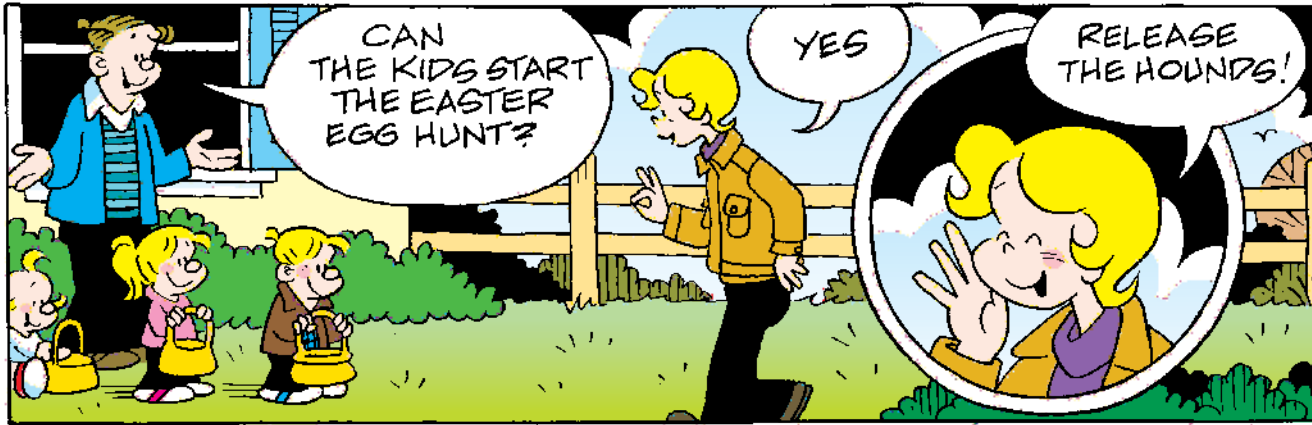
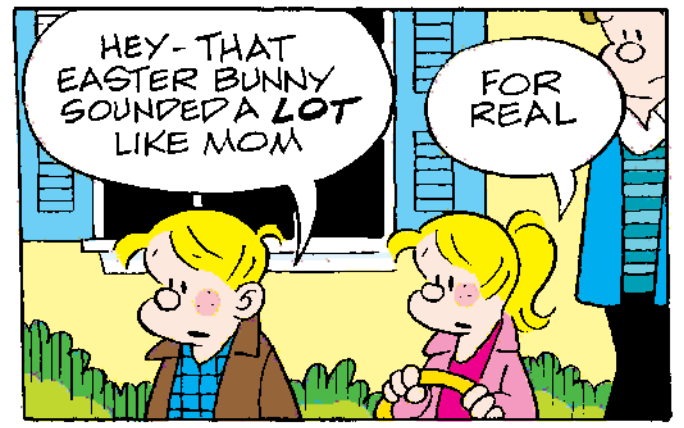
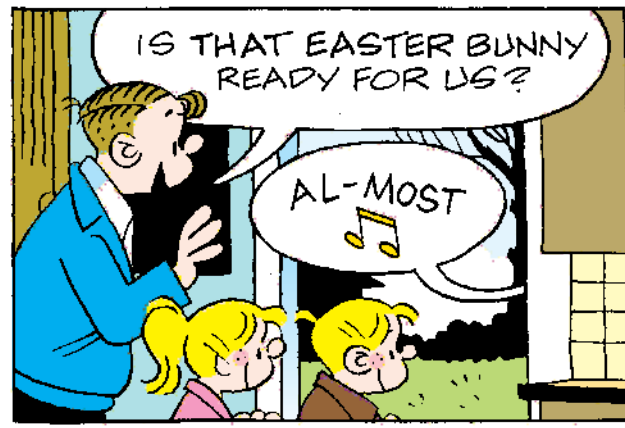
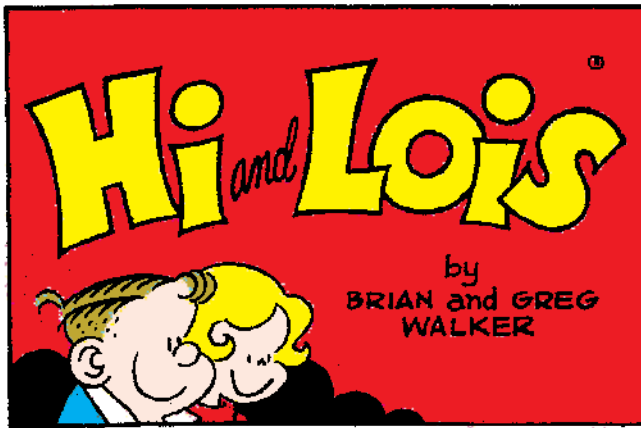
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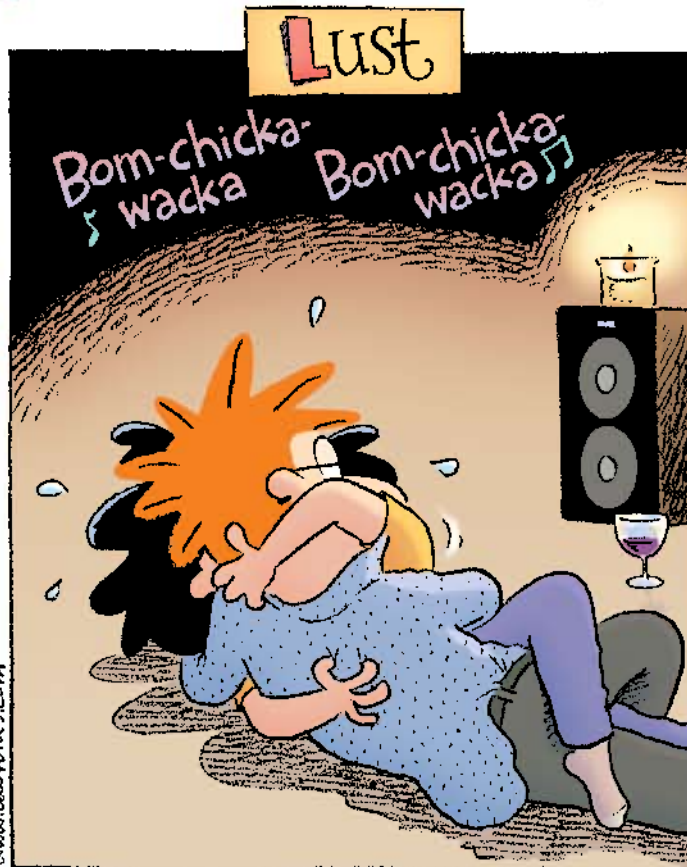
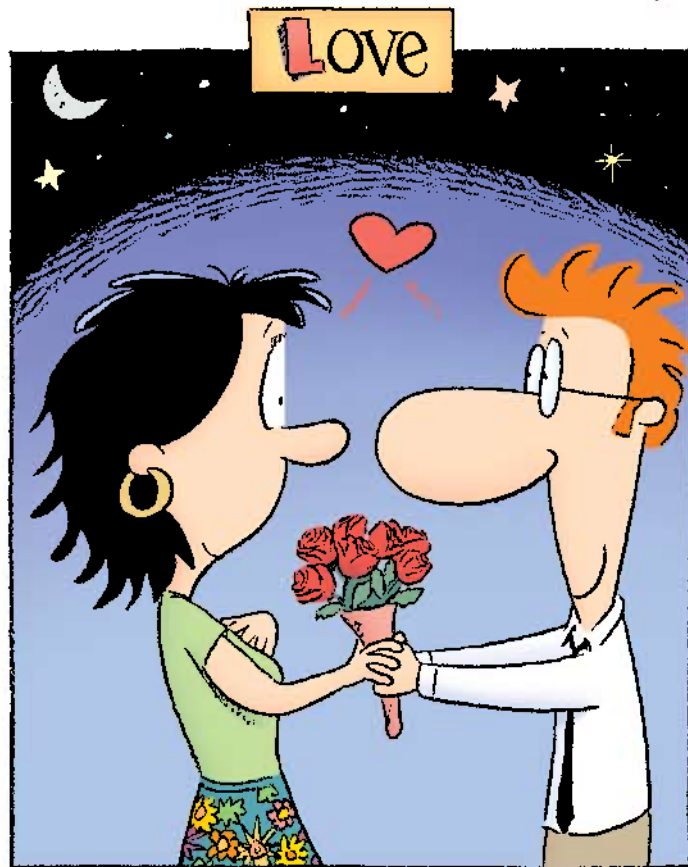








the NATURAL ORDER of THINGS-



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) With your practical side dominant this week, it's a good time to reassess your finances to see what expenses you can cut. Aspects also favor mending fraying relationships.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Your Bovine-inspired determination to follow matters through from beginning to end pays off in a big way. Enjoy a well-earned week-end of fun with a special someone.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Aspects favor re-establishing business relationships you might have neglected. A family member's request needs to be given more thought before you make a decision.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) While you might appreciate the avalanche of advice coming from others, keep in mind that the intuitive Moon Child is best served by listening to her or his own inner voice.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) The Lion's social life whirls at centrifugal speed this week as you go from function to function. Things slow by week's end, giving you a chance to catch up on your chores.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Don't let your stand on an issue cause a rift with a colleague. Insist on both of you taking time to reassess your positions while there's still room for compromise.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) An opportunity you'd been hoping for finally opens up. But read the fine print before you make a commitment, especially where a time factor might be involved.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Your need to know what's going on behind the scenes leads you to make some bold moves. Be prepared with a full explanation of your actions if necessary.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A lot of details need tending to during the early part of the week. The pressure eases by the 20th, allowing you to get back to your major undertaking.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A friend asks you to act on his or her behalf in a dispute. Be careful. You might not have all the facts you need in order to make a fair assessment of the situation.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A new development might require you to cancel some of your plans. But you adapt easily, and by week's end, you could receive welcome "cheering-up" news.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Your recent workplace accomplishments boost your self-confidence just as you're about to consider a potentially rewarding, although possibly risky, career move.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Your love of the arts is equaled only by your strong sense of justice. People can depend on you to always try to do what's right.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Spigot
- 4 Boxer's foot
- 7 ... and what it may leave
- 12 Lemieux milieu
- 13 Acapulco gold
- 14 Heart line?
- 15 Crib
- 16 "All the Way" lyricist
- 18 Traveler's stopover
- 19 Kilmer classic
- 20 Stats in a big family
- 22 Pismire
- 23 Movie
- 27 Suitable
- 29 Educational institution
- 31 Fry lightly
- 34 Useful
- 35 Poor substitute
- 37 That guy
- 38 Prayer ending
- 39 Altar
- 41 Multicolored
- 45 "West Side Story" role
- 47 Churchill's gesture
- 48 "Las Vegas" actor
- 52 Source of valuable matter
- 53 Flooded
- 54 Little louse
- 55 Free (of)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13			14				
15			16			17				
18			19							
20		21	22			23	24	25	26	
		27	28		29	30				
31	32	33			34					
35				36	37					
38				39	40		41	42	43	44
			45			46		47		
48	49	50	51					52		
53					54			55		
56					57			58		

DOWN

- 1 Leg bone
- 2 Scoring 100 on
- 3 Tubular pasta
- 4 D.C. newspaper
- 5 Ark's landing site
- 6 Misogynist's bane
- 7 Picks up the check
- 8 Sinbad's bird
- 9 Playwright
- 10 Ultimate
- 11 Hosiery shade
- 17 Flushing team
- 21 Mephistopheles
- 23 Winner
- 24 Charged bit
- 25 Affirmative action?
- 26 Nevada county seat
- 28 Favorite
- 30 Greek X
- 31 Body of water ...
- 32 ... and an inlet thereof
- 33 Work with
- 36 Galvanizing material
- 37 Empty talk
- 40 Singer Ross
- 42 Ebony counterpart?
- 43 More than coincidental
- 44 Actions
- 45 Wan
- 46 Initial chip
- 48 Poke
- 49 Shock and -
- 50 Welcome sight?
- 51 Curvy character

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top ten

1. Prunes  
2. Raisins  
3. Blueberries  
4. Strawberries  
5. Raspberries  
6. Plums  
7. Oranges  
8. Grapes  
9. Cherries  
10. Kiwi

**Antioxidant Fruits**

Source: [www.wikihow.com](http://www.wikihow.com)

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KING CROSSWORD LAST SUNDAY'S ANSWERS

A	B	S	P	A	C	K	T	H	J	S
O	C	H	A	L	O	E	H	A	R	P
S	W	A	N	S	O	N	G	A	L	G
A	G	A	T	O	B	E	Y	B	R	O
R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D	L	E	A
C	H	E	A	P	A	R	S			
L	I	A	M	D	O	V	E	A	I	L
O	K	R	A	A	R	E	A	N	R	A
V	F	N	S	G	F	R	M	T	A	X



# United States

## Flooding, heavy snow plague Midwest

**DUTCHTOWN, Mo. (AP)**—Flood-weary residents in Missouri, Arkansas and Ohio fought to save their homes Friday after heavy rainstorms pushed swollen rivers out of their banks, and a fresh snowstorm blew through parts of the Upper Midwest, canceling flights and some Good Friday services.

Along the Meramec River in eastern Missouri, residents of Valley Park hoped the town's \$49 million earthen levee, built in 2005 to withstand a 100-year flood, would pass its first big test. The surging Meramec was expected to crest at a record 40 feet on Saturday - 24 feet above flood stage.

The Army Corps of Engineers and Missouri Public Safety said the levee was in good shape, but some residents decided to leave for higher ground just in case.

## Torture death shocks Ill. town

**ALTON, Ill. (AP)**—Banished to the basement, the 29-year-old mother with a childlike mind and another baby on the way had little more than a thin rug and a mattress to call her own on the chilly concrete floor.

Dorothy Dixon ate what she could forage from the refrigerator upstairs, where prosecutors say housemates used her for target practice with BBs, burned her with a glue gun and doused her with scalding liquid that peeled away her skin.

They torched what few clothes she had, authorities say, so she walked around naked. They often pummeled her with an aluminum bat or metal handle.

Dixon—six months pregnant—died after weeks of abuse. Police have charged two adults, three teenagers and a 12-year-

old boy with murder in the case that has repulsed many in this Mississippi River town.

"This is heartbreaking," police Lt. David Hayes said. "It was almost as though they were making fun of the abuse they were administering. This woman was almost like living in a prison."

Investigators put much of the blame on Michelle Riley, 35, who they said befriended Dixon but pocketed monthly Social Security checks she got because of her developmental delays.



Dixon

## Candidates' passport files breached

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—At least four State Department workers pried into the supposedly secure passport files of presidential contenders Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama and John McCain, abashed officials admitted Friday in a revelation that had Condoleezza Rice promising a full investigation and telephoning the candidates to apologize personally.

The snooping incidents raised questions as to whether there was political motivation and why two contractors involved were fired before investigators had a chance to interview them. The State Department's inspector general was probing, with the Justice Department monitoring the effort, but Obama said that was not enough. He urged congressional involvement "so it's not simply an internal matter."

The unauthorized digging into electronic government files on politicians recalled a 1992 case in which a Republican political appointee at the State Department was demoted for searching Bill Clinton's passport records when Clinton was running against President George H.W. Bush.

McCain, the Republican nominee-in-waiting, said there should be an investigation of the new snooping as well as an apology.

Democrat Obama said that better include Congress, not just Bush administration investigators.

"When you have not just one but a series of attempts to tap into people's personal records, that's a problem not just for me but for how our government functions," Obama told reporters in Portland, Ore., where he was campaigning.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Mexican police chief requests US asylum

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)**—The police chief of a Mexican border town racked by smuggling-related violence fled to the U.S. seeking asylum after his deputies abandoned him, federal officials said Friday. Emilio Perez, the chief of Palomas, Mexico, showed up at the international port of entry in Columbus, N.M., late Tuesday, saying his two deputies had left the department and that he now needed protection, too, according to Doug Mosier, a U.S. Border Patrol spokesman in El Paso. Perez was taken in and was believed to be in custody of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Friday, according to Mosier. Letitia Zamarripa, an ICE spokeswoman, declined to comment on the case, citing privacy issues.

### Girl, 6, dies from swimming pool injury

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)**—A 6-year-old girl whose intestines were partially sucked out by a swimming pool drain, leading to tougher safety legislation, has died, her family's attorney said Friday. Abigail Taylor's parents were with her when she died Thursday at Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, where she had surgery in December to receive a new small bowel, liver and pancreas several months after she was injured. She suffered setbacks, including a cancerous condition sometimes triggered by organ transplants, family attorney Bob Bennett said. A hospital spokeswoman, Kara Haworth, confirmed Abigail's death but said that she could not comment further and that Abigail's doctors were not available Friday.

### 4 found safe, pulled from Tenn. cave

**TOWNSEND, Tenn. (AP)**—Rescuers found four cavers cold and wet but otherwise safe on Friday after they didn't return as planned from an overnight spelunking trip in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The four were brought out of the cave in good condition shortly before 8 p.m., about six hours after searchers made contact with them. The men had descended about 500 feet into the cave from its entrance, park spokesman Kent Cave said. "They were at the bottom of the third of three major vertical drops in the cave," Cave said earlier Friday. "It's like rock climbing, but rock climbing in the dark with water falling over you. The vertical drops are basically waterfalls." Rescue squad members had warm clothes, blankets and hot food waiting for the four. Bob Miller, a park spokesman, said the temperature in the cave was in the low to mid-50s.

### City's water verified as bacteria source

**DENVER (AP)**—It could be three more weeks before residents of a southern Colorado town can drink water straight from the tap after dozens of cases of salmonella poisoning were linked to municipal water, putting seven people in the hospital. An analysis indicates the municipal water system in Alamosa is the source of the bacterial outbreak, as suspected, said Ned Calonge, chief medical officer for the state health department. Gov. Bill Ritter declared an emergency Friday in Alamosa County, activating the National Guard and providing as much as \$300,000 for response efforts. The city and county have also declared emergencies as officials scrambled to provide safe water and disinfect the system with chlorine.



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# Asia

## Tibet unrest colors Taiwan elections

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwanese voters were deciding Saturday whether to stick with a party whose pro-independence bent has strained ties with China or switch to one pushing for a reduction of tensions and more economic engagement with the communist country.

Just two weeks ago, opposition candidate Ma Ying-jeou seemed ready to cruise to victory in the island's fourth direct presidential election, promising to work toward friendlier relations and even a common mar-

ket with China.

But ruling party candidate Frank Hsieh appears to have been closing the gap. His party used the last day of campaigning to fan outrage over China's crackdown in Tibet.

Hsieh warns that China's crackdown in Tibet could be replicated in Taiwan, which split from the mainland amid civil war in 1949. Beijing still considers the island to be part of its territory and has threatened to attack if Taiwan rejects unification and seeks a perma-

nent break.

"If Ma is elected, Taiwan's future will be in danger," Hsieh told a cheering crowd at a rally Friday in the southern city of Chiayi. "It will be the same for China to attack Tibet or Taiwan because it will be China's domestic issue."

But Ma has accused Hsieh of exploiting Tibet for political gain, although he himself has threatened to boycott the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing if the Tibetan situation worsens.

## China issues Most Wanted list of rioters

BEIJING (AP)—China issued a "Most Wanted" list of 21 rioters Friday—shown in grainy photos waving knives and fighting during last week's violence over Chinese rule in Tibet. Thousands of troops continued to push into western China to contain unrest.

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi gave support to the Tibetan cause on a visit to the Dalai Lama, calling China's crackdown "a challenge to the conscience of the world." U.S. presidential hopeful Sen. John McCain, speaking to reporters in France, said China was hurting its international image and urged the country to seek peaceful solution.

Their criticism added to a chorus of international concern over Beijing's harsh response to the anti-government protests, as China sought to blame supporters of the Tibetan spiritual leader for unrest that is posing the biggest challenge in two decades to Beijing's control of Tibet.

"If freedom-loving people throughout the world do not speak out against China's oppression in China and Tibet, we have lost all moral authority to speak on behalf of human rights anywhere in the world," Pelosi told a cheering crowd in Dharm-



A woman walks past as paramilitary police march in a street in Zhongdian, in an area known as Shangri-La, in China's southwest Yunnan province Friday March 21, 2008.

sala, India, seat of the Dalai Lama's government-in-exile.

She dismissed China's claim that the Dalai Lama was behind the violence in Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, as making "no sense."

China's response to last

week's riots in Lhasa drew world attention to its human rights record and threatens to overshadow its attempts to project an image of unity and prosperity ahead of the Aug. 8-24 Olympics in Beijing.

## China might bar Tiananmen broadcasts

BEIJING (AP)—China might bar live television broadcasts from Tiananmen Square during the Beijing Olympics, apparently unnerved by the recent outburst of unrest among Tibetans and fearful of protests in the heart of the Chinese capital.

A ban on live broadcasts would disrupt the plans of NBC and other major international networks, who have paid hundreds of millions of dollars to broadcast the Aug. 8-24 games and are counting on eye-pleasing live shots from the iconic square.

The rethinking of Beijing's earlier promise to broadcasters comes as the government has poured troops into Tibetan areas wracked by anti-government protests this month and stepped up security in cities, airports and entertainment venues far from the unrest.

In another sign of the government's unease, 400 American Boy Scouts who had been promised they could onto the field following a March 15 exhibition game between the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego Padres were prevented from doing so by police.

## Musharraf's allies withdraw PM candidate

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) —Allies of President Pervez Musharraf said Friday they would withdraw their candidate for Pakistan's prime minister as a "goodwill gesture" to followers of slain leader Benazir Bhutto who now dominate parliament.

The move clears the way for whoever is nominated by Bhutto's party to run for prime minister uncontested.

Bhutto's party routed Musharraf's allies to win the most seats in last month's elections. Her widower and 19-year-old son are expected to announce

a candidate this weekend, ahead of a Monday vote in parliament.

Musharraf's allies named their choice for the post, Farooq Sattar, earlier this week. The nomination was largely symbolic since they do not hold a majority in parliament.

# Across The Globe

## Russian journalist is killed

MOSCOW (AP)—A television journalist was found dead in a Moscow apartment Friday with a belt around his neck and numerous stab wounds—a grisly murder that reinforces Russia's image as one of the most dangerous countries for reporters.



Shurpayev

Hours after the body was discovered, an executive in charge of the provincial state TV station in the victim's home region in southern Russia was shot to death by unidentified men, and police were looking for links between the two killings.

More than a dozen journalists have been slain in contract-style killings and others have been beaten since 2000. Many appear to have been targeted because of their attempts to dig into allegations of corruption.

## Pope presides at Good Friday procession

ROME (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI presided over the Good Friday nighttime Way of the Cross procession but did not carry the cross as planned during the tradition, which this year paid tribute to Catholics who are persecuted.

The pope wore a long white coat as he stood sheltered from the cold, pelting rain under a canopy erected on the Palatine Hill overlooking the Colosseum.

At the end of the procession, Italian Cardinal Camillo Ruini handed Benedict the tall, slender, lightweight cross. The pope gripped the cross briefly. Then, in a strong voice, he blessed the crowd of thousands being drenched by the rain and buffeted by gusty winds and told them: "Thank you for being patient under the rain. Happy Easter to you."

The pope was supposed to carry the cross for the final minutes of the more than hour-long procession, taking his turn after a young woman and a young priest from China walked with the symbol of Jesus' crucifixion.

But Vatican officials said that because of the storm, it was decided that the pope, who turns 81 next month and has two more days of strenuous ceremonies in the days ahead to mark Easter, should stay dry under the canopy.

## France to cut nuclear arsenal

PARIS (AP)—President Nicolas Sarkozy said Friday that he will cut France's nuclear arsenal to fewer than 300 warheads, seeking to balance the defense of the nation—he mentioned the threat from Iran—against budgetary and strategic considerations.

In his first major speech as president on the French deterrent, Sarkozy also urged the United States and China to commit fully to a treaty banning tests of nuclear weapons.

In addition, Sarkozy shifted somewhat from the nuclear doctrine of his predecessor, Jacques Chirac, by being slightly more ambiguous about the circumstances that might lead France to employ its nuclear weapons.

Sarkozy's decision to reveal the rough size of France's arsenal—the Defense Ministry said the exact number of warheads is still secret—appeared aimed at prodding other nuclear powers to be equally transparent.

Many of France's nuclear

weapons are carried aboard submarines, with the rest on warplanes. Sarkozy said the airborne component would be cut by one-third, specifying that that included nuclear weapons, missiles and planes.

"After this reduction, our arsenal will include fewer than 300 nuclear warheads," he said. "That is half the maximum number of warheads that we had during the Cold War."

He also said none of France's weapons is targeted at any nation.

France's airborne nuclear weapons are carried by three air force squadrons of Mirage 2000N and another navy flotilla of upgraded Super Etendard jets. They are all to be replaced by high-tech Rafale jets, in air force and navy versions.

French defense expert Francois Heisbourg said the air fleet modernization allowed the size of the nuclear arsenal to be trimmed.



Christian pilgrims re-enact Jesus carrying the cross on the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem's Old City, Friday March 21, 2008. Thousands of Christians from all over the world crowded the stone alleyways of Jerusalem's Old City to mark Good Friday, retracing the route Jesus took to his crucifixion.

## Pilgrims mark Good Friday in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (AP)—Thousands of Christians from all over the world crowded the stone alleyways of Jerusalem's Old City to mark Good Friday, retracing the route the Bible says Jesus took to his crucifixion.

Some pilgrims carried large wooden crosses as they walked down the Via Dolorosa, or Way of Sorrows, stopping at 14 stations that commemorate events that Christians believe befell Jesus as he was led to his death.

Many pilgrims prayed in the ancient Church of the Holy Sepulcher, which tradition holds was the site of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. Some chanted hymns, while others prostrated themselves on a smooth stone slab marking the spot where Jesus' body was believed to have been placed after being removed from the cross.

Visitors in the city hailed from Brazil, the Philippines, Poland, Spain, and African nations.

The crowd in one of the Old City's streets included two dozen members of an American church group from Ohio, dressed in white. Eileen Joiner, 43, from Akron, said she was moved to be in Jerusalem.



# Focus



AP  
Laura Youngblood poses for a photographer with daughter Emma, 2, while holding a photo of her husband, at their home in Sebastian, Fla., Thursday, Feb. 28, 2008. Youngblood's husband Petty Officer 3rd Class Travis L. Youngblood, 26, died on July 21, 2005 from wounds received while serving in Iraq.

## For few, Iraq war changed everything

By **KIMBERLY HEFLING**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Laura Youngblood clutched her husband's photo as she drove alone to the hospital. She'd become pregnant nearly nine months earlier, the day he'd left for training for Iraq. Hours later, after the baby was born, she placed the photo in the bassinet next to the infant he'd named Emma in his last letter home. He would never hold her.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Travis L. Youngblood, 26, had died two months earlier, killed by an improvised explosive device.

Laura Youngblood is just 29 years old, but she insists she will not remarry. Her life is her children, now ages 2 and 7. One day, she says, she'll be buried in the plot with her husband at Arlington National Cemetery.

"I tell people I'm a happily married woman," she says, crying.

Five years after U.S. troops invaded Iraq, there are many tears—though not everyone is crying. For the great major-

ity of Americans, this is a war seen from afar. They turn off the news and forget about what is happening a world away.

Then there's the other war, the one that's a very vivid and present part of some Americans' lives.

It's the war that more than a million U.S. soldiers have fought, leaving nearly 4,000 dead and more than 29,000 wounded in action. The one in which thousands of contractors rushed in to serve and to make a buck—though some paid the ultimate price, as well.

Around military bases across America, vacations are planned around deployment schedules. Mini baby booms occur nine months after troops come home. Support groups for widows and injured soldiers have come together.

At small town National Guard armories, the focus has shifted from one weekend a month to filling out life insurance forms and packing a rucksack for war.

"How did I end up in this

See **FOR FEW** on Page 20

*He washed all our sins  
when he died on the  
cross. As we celebrate  
Jesus Christ's rebirth, let  
us all remember to pray  
and be thankful.*

*Happy Easter!*



*From the management and staff of*



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When Jesus Christ died on the cross,  
he redeemed all humankind.  
Ressurrection and ascension to the heavens  
days later brought us the promise of eternal life.

Let us as one people celebrate His rebirth today  
with prayers and thanksgiving.

# Happy Easter!

From the management and staff of

*Hafa Adai!*  
**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



## FOR FEW

From Page 19

kind of a situation?" There were a lot of guys that said that," says Jeff Myers, 48, a tech sergeant in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard from Pillow, Pa. His lips still discharge shrapnel shreds, the residue of two roadside bombs he survived in 2004; a neurologist monitors the concussions he sustained.

In his job as a gunner guarding Army convoys, he saw men so paralyzed by fear they wouldn't go outside the wire. He saw others die 15 minutes after he was chatting with them.

It's not a matter of whether you will have to deal with things like irritability and nightmares after you get home, he says: "It's how you deal with it when it does happen."

And how you deal with your fellow Americans who experienced Iraq from a distance.

Amanda Jordan, whose Marine husband was killed three days into the war, says she doesn't know what bothers her more—the days that go by when no one speaks of the war, or the punditry. At a local diner she frequents with her 11-year-old son near their home in Enfield, Conn., she's contemplated standing up and leaving so he doesn't hear when people say Iraq was unnecessarily invaded.

"This is like my life. You're saying my spouse, my child's father, is dead for no reason," says Jordan, a 39-year-old former paralegal who is studying to be a therapist specializing

in grief. "That's a pretty harsh thing to hear all the time."

■ ■ ■

Some can tell you exactly when their lives changed.

For Hazel Hoffman, from outside Grand Rapids, Mich., it was when the phone rang and she learned her son, Josh, was shot by a sniper. He was left a quadriplegic, unable to speak.

"I cried so hard that I had tears of blood. I remember looking down wondering, where is all this blood coming from? And it took a few seconds for me to realize this was coming out of me," says Hoffman, who has lived more than a year in an apartment with her son's girlfriend near his hospital in Richmond, Va.

Suzanne Stack, 48, was soaking in the bathtub in their house at Fort Campbell, Ky., when the doorbell rang. There were two officers at the door.

Afterward, still numb from the news of her husband's death, she walked her kids to the school bus. She sensed that people were looking at her fearfully, as if they were afraid they would be next. Even before the funeral, one spouse told her there was a waiting list for post housing. When would she be moving out?

"One day you're one thing. The next thing you're not. It's really quite a shock," says Stack, of Fredericksburg, Va., who now volunteers as an advocate for widows on Capitol Hill.

Walter Lajuane Williams, 33, of Fremont, Calif., was stoned when his turning point came. He was couch surfing, unem-

ployed and in an abusive relationship after he left the Army, which took him to Iraq and Afghanistan. Even his service was criticized: "I had a person tell me, 'How could you kill another person?'"

AP



ployed and in an abusive relationship after he left the Army, which took him to Iraq and Afghanistan. Even his service was criticized: "I had a person tell me, 'How could you kill another person?'"

He went to the nonprofit Swords to Plowshares, looking for help finding work. A caseworker, wise to his drug use, took him aside. "I'm going to tell you candidly how I feel and what I smell," he said. "I'm going to work with you. Don't make me regret it."

Williams now helps other vets find jobs.

"All we need is a chance," Williams says.

■ ■ ■

Recently, an Iraq veteran came to Daniel Fox's office and asked to take a screening exam for post-traumatic stress disorder a second time. He'd lied the first time, he said.

"When I asked him why he wasn't honest, he said because I had just gotten home and everybody's like saying, 'Welcome home hero,'" Fox says. "And how could he tell him that this hero was not doing well?"

Fox, 47, works for the Department of Veterans Affairs as a case manager, assisting Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. For a year, Fox, an Army Reservist, worked as an intensive care nurse at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany; the injured would be airlifted from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Fox and his fellow nurses called themselves the ICU angels on the ICU angels tour. To lighten the mood, they made T-shirts with the slogan. Their bravado just helped mask their intense emotions.

"You had a mom and dad and the new wife with the babies in their arms standing in the door of this patient's room and he's got a gunshot wound to the head," says Fox, of Wichita, Kan. "How do you explain that to them? You can't console them."

"After a while, you go home and you cry about it," he says.

He used to be more macho and unemotional. Today, "I have more sympathy, more compassion," he says.

Lt. Col. Douglas Etter's job was sympathy and compassion. Etter, a minister, was a chaplain with the Pennsylvania National Guard in Al Anbar Province; his battalion lost 13 soldiers and two Marines.

He laid his hands on some of the men and delivered last rites. One morning, after he memorialized two of the dead, he says his stoicism dissolved; jogging by the Euphrates River, he cried.

In blunt newsletters home, he chronicled what the troops were seeing and experiencing, from delivering shoes and school supplies to happy Iraqi children to the story of a dead soldier wrapped in a flag by his fellow soldiers in the middle of a firefight because nothing else was available.

"As excited as we are to go home, many are equally afraid," he wrote in one of his last letters.

When Etter himself returned on leave to Pennsylvania to officiate at the funeral of a close friend, he turned to his wife and said he wanted to go home.

"I said, 'OK, get in the car. Let's go home,'" said Jodi Etter. "And you said, 'No, my home is Iraq. I just want to go home.'"

When his tour was over, and he went with his wife to buy furniture for their new house in Lebanon, Pa., he had to remind himself that it was important to her—even if it seemed trivial to him after the war. He drove fast, and bought a BMW so he could do it. One day, Jodi pointed out that he was drinking more.

With time, his life settled down, and he came to feel that his months in Iraq were a time of growth. Now executive director of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Veterans Affairs, Etter says a deployment is like a magnifying glass.

"Personalities that are strong become stronger," he says. "Personalities which are weaker are made to become weaker."

■ ■ ■

Phil Nesmith came away from Iraq with a certain clarity.

It wasn't the money that lured him to Iraq, he insists. He was like most of the U.S. troops he was living with at the time—idealistic about the mission.

He had been an Army paratrooper, but now he was among the first group of government contractors to arrive in Iraq after the invasion in 2003. His task was to help get telecommunications running.

At night, rockets flew into their compound. Sometimes they missed and hit apartments nearby, killing Iraqis. On the ground near where he was sleeping, a young officer shot and killed himself.

Violence did not account for all the stress. While he was there, Nesmith says, his relationship with his girlfriend of three years ended and she got pregnant by another man. "Pretty much every other soldier around me, husband, wife, boyfriend, girlfriend, whatever, had left them or they suspected them cheating on them."

It was hard. "You've left your life and you're wanting to maintain some kind of connection with that, but everything you left behind is continuing on even though your life is kind of suspended while you're there."

As he left Iraq, he crossed paths with a contractor who bragged about what he was going to buy with the money he was going to make in Iraq.

"I was just like, well, 'You know, everybody's got their reasons, but I've got to ask you this: You lose both your legs, is that \$160,000 going to be worth it?'" he says.

By that point, Nesmith says he knew what he wanted, what was important. He wanted to backpack through Australia,

visit Montana, and go to photography school.

He did all three.

He had taken pictures in Iraq. Now he took some of those shots and manipulated them to look like they were taken in the Civil War era. They were shown at Washington, D.C.'s Irvine Contemporary Gallery in Washington, D.C., and priced at \$1,500 each.

One photo depicts a single soldier standing alone in the desert. It reminds him of his own plight. "I knew I was on my journey back and when I got there I was going to be alone," Nesmith says. "No one was going to understand what that year was like."

Another photo, his favorite, is of an Iraqi flag flying outside a government utility office. Some Iraqis had just put it up. It was a time of optimism.

But now, he says, "it just seems like a more naive time, when you thought there was so much more that could possibly happen."

■ ■ ■

Before Travis Youngblood left for Iraq, he and his wife watched a TV interview with a pregnant woman whose husband had died in Iraq. Laura Youngblood cried.

"I felt so sorry for her," Youngblood says.

But then, "When my husband died, my first words were, 'I became her.'"

Today in nearly every room of her Florida house, there's a photo of her husband.

"It is hard. I feel bad for my son because he's 7. He doesn't know how to ride a two-wheel bike. His daddy was going to teach him," she says. "I can't do all the boy things that he wants to do."

She put together videos so her daughter will know the father she never met.

"I'm a survivor of the war. I'm a surviving spouse," Youngblood says. "That's the best way I can say it because every day you're surviving."



AP

Technical Sergeant Jeff Myers stands in his garage at the 193D Special Operations Wing Pennsylvania National Guard in Middletown, Pa., Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008.



# Life & Style

## THREE WISE GUYS

### Bathroom, kitchen etiquette

By JOE HEIM, JUSTIN RUDE and DAN ZAK  
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#### Dear Wise Guys:

I was recently using a urinal at a large public rest stop when the guy next to me cut the cheese in a big way. When I looked at him with disgust, he said, "Hey, if you can't do it in a bathroom, where can you do it?" Is he correct, and if so, are there other places where this would be acceptable?—Louie

**Dan:** First, men are supposed to ignore each other at urinals. Second, it's not like this guy tackled and forced you into a Dutch oven. Third, I argue that audible flatulence is acceptable everywhere because it brings immediate and sometimes sustaining levity to any situation. Except for funerals. I learned that one the hard way.

■ ■ ■

#### Dear Wise Guys:

Love you guys, even though I'm old enough to be your mother. So in true motherly fashion, may I ask: Why are you peeling potatoes at all? (WISEGUYS, moved March 10) Don't you know all the fiber is in the skin? Do you want to have digestive problems, then hemorrhoids, and then maybe a painful hemorrhoidectomy? I say this because I care about you. —Jackie

**Justin:** Don't worry on my account. I'm not actually peeling the skin off the potato; I'm peeling the potato off the skin. It's the key ingredient in my signature cocktail—the potatoskintini. Plenty of fiber in that. And gin.

■ ■ ■

#### Dear Wise Guys:

Why does Washington have an equestrian statue and a circle dedicated to the Rock of Chickamauga (bet even you will have to look that one up), while Gen. George Meade, the victor in the Civil War's decisive battle, Gettysburg, stands—yes, stands, no horse—lonely, a statue along the sidewalk opposite the National Gallery of Art, nothing named after him?—Greg H., founder and director of the Foundation to Give Meade Credit Due

**Joe:** The rock of whatawhata? Oh, you mean Gen. George Thomas? (Yeah, yeah, we just Wikipedia'd it.)

First of all, Gen. Meade has received recognition in the area. For starters, Fort Meade in Anne Arundel County, Md., is named for him. That's a big deal, right?

We put your query to historian Stephen Sears, who has written extensively on the Civil War. "It's a good question," he says. "He certainly deserves a statue as much as General McClellan, who has a statue on Connecticut Avenue. You know McClellan's statue is facing south, and yet anyone who knows anything about him knows that he was always looking for a way to retreat. Meade was certainly a much better general, and he deserves an equestrian statue of his own."

So, good luck with your campaign, Greg. We all know this city could use a few more statues.

Have a question only the Three Wise Guys can answer? Send it to [wiseguys@washpost.com](mailto:wiseguys@washpost.com) and await their words of wise-dom.

By ERIN CARLSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**NEW YORK (AP)**—And the winner for best music video: "Chocolate Rain."

Tay Zonday morphed from an unknown musician to an Internet superstar who got booked on U.S. TV shows after his song "Chocolate Rain"—an amateur clip of his baritone crooning—went viral last year. Now he is among the 12 winners of the second annual YouTube Video Awards, recognizing the top user-created videos of 2007.

YouTube users voted on six nominees for each category: music, sports, comedy, instructional, short film, inspirational, commentary, creative, politics, series, eyewitness and "adorable."

"It's the new Emmys," Zonday, 25, said of the video-sharing site's awards in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "It's the next Oscars. The next People's Choice Awards. It'll be interesting to see what happens five years, 10 years (from now)."

His competition included comely singer-songwriter Mia Rose and "the vegetable orchestra," featuring a jam session with a carrot flute and squash drum.

Neil Cicierega's video featuring "Harry Potter" hand puppets (and Professor Dumbledore without any clothes on) won for best comedy video. Guillaume Reymond's "Human Tetris" won most creative video.

Chris Crocker, who shot to stardom in his video freak-out over Britney Spears' public meltdown, was beaten in the commentary category by a clip from Michael Buckley of the popular online show "What the Buck?" slamming fellow YouTube celebrity Lonelygirl15.

The Obama Girl, aka Amber Lee Ettinger, whose "I Got A



Amber Lee Ettinger arrives at the Sean John apparel party launching an underwear and lounge wear clothing line at Light nightclub at the Bellagio hotel and casino in Las Vegas in this Aug. 27, 2007, file photo.

Crush On Obama" clip has been seen more than 7 million times, did not wind up winning in the politics category. That honor went to the serious-minded "Stop the Clash of Civilizations" video by the global organization [avaaz.org](http://avaaz.org).

"The (political) video that actually won in an election year

wasn't one that had anything to do with the election itself," said YouTube spokesman Aaron Ferstman. "(It's a) video that deals with ... serious issues like discrimination, and that video's done in kind of a neat way that speaks to young people."

Best eyewitness video was the epic "Battle at Kruger," which has drawn more than 26 million views to its astonishing footage of a baby water buffalo surviving an attack by lions—and a crocodile—in South Africa. It

was up against the news-making clip of a University of Florida student pleading "Don't tase me, bro!" as police removed him from a John Kerry forum.

Ben Shelton's "My Name is Lisa"—a drama about a young girl and her mother who has Alzheimer's—triumphed in the newly added short film category.

The winning Web series was "The Guild," a comedy about a group of obsessed online gamers.

The Texas Country Reporter's video about a blind painter won most inspirational video. The "Balloon Bowl" clip of a guy skateboarding in a balloon-filled bowl snagged best sports video. And the incredibly cute, compulsively watchable "Laughing Baby" clip was voted most adorable.

Dan Brown's video "How to Solve a Rubik's Cube (Part One)" scored in the instructional category.

Ferstman said the prizes consist of "notoriety" and a trophy he described as "very heavy with a metal base" supporting a "big glass 'play' button."

Ferstman said: "These are the (videos) that really will stand out and over time, you know, you'll say, 'Hey, do you remember the Laughing Baby?'"

Zonday, who streams music from his YouTube channel, MySpace page and personal Web site, said he hopes to earn "a living making art and producing music," and is pursuing a voice-over career. He is flattered by the numerous online parodies of "Chocolate Rain," which has garnered nearly 16 million views.

"A lot of people see political commentary in (the song)," he said. "A lot of people find humor in it. A lot of people, they say their 2-year-olds can't stop repeating it at bedtime, so lots of people get different things out of the song. And I think the greatest consequence and the greatest mileage it can have is to get people asking questions."

What is the key to YouTube success?

"Just be very authentic and put yourself out there," he said in his mellifluous voice. "You'll never know what will happen."

**ON THE NET**  
<http://www.youtube.com/ytawards07>

## Beauty is only shell deep

By MARYLOU TOUSIGNANT  
© 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

**WASHINGTON**—The first time you sit down to make a Ukrainian Easter egg, you're all thumbs.

You fumble with getting the melted wax in the special writing tool, the lines you draw are shaky and your carefully thought-out design is quickly derailed when a big glob of wax drips where it wasn't supposed to. And that's assuming you don't jab your thumb through the fragile shell in a moment of over-enthusiasm.

Those moments are rare for the Eggerton family of Fairfax, Va.—cousins Amelia, Virginia, Pam and Trish Eggerton and Michael Burton. With their parents, aunts, uncles and friends, they have been making Ukrainian Easter eggs for six years during annual spring beach getaways.

"It's fun creating images on eggs because they're round—not like paper," says Amelia, 10. And "it's not very hard," adds Michael, 13. "If you don't think about it too hard, and you just doodle on it, it ends up looking good."

Decorated eggs, or pysanky, have been a tradition in Ukraine and the rest of Eastern Eu-

### GET CRACKING

A good place to learn more about this art form, including what supplies you'll need, is [www.learnpysanky.com](http://www.learnpysanky.com). There are hints and tricks and more than 30 inspiring designs. (© 2008, The Washington Post)

rope for centuries. Some artists prefer to use large goose eggs, but most people use store-bought chicken eggs.

Designs are drawn on the raw eggs using a kistka, a tool that holds a bit of melted beeswax. Areas covered in wax won't change color when the eggs are put in special dyes. Before each round of dyeing, more wax is applied, depending on the design. These layers

add up to a multicolored pattern once the wax is removed.

Because you are working with lit candles, hot beeswax and messy dye, this is not something to try without adults present. It's also an art that can't be hurried.

John Eggerton tells his kids "there are no mistakes, only new paths" when waxing the eggs. "A blob becomes a butterfly."

"I love that it changes what you're thinking," says Virginia, 12. "You'll be drawing a person or a sun, and you'll have to change. ... It helps you let go of things. It's helped me throw away things I don't need anymore."

The eggs, of course, are kept—treasures that recall happy family times. Everyone enjoys admiring their favorites from past years. Of course, some eggs don't make it from one spring to the next.

"A lot of them break," admits Jeanmarie Nagle, Michael's mom. "To have any that survive is amazing."

But, oh, those that do are something to behold.

With wax, dye and some patience, kids can create pretty Ukrainian-style Easter eggs. Decorated eggs, or pysanky, have been a tradition in Ukraine and the rest of Eastern Europe for centuries.

THE WASHINGTON POST





# Beatles sue to block 1962 tapes' release

MIAMI (AP)—Lawyers for the Beatles sued Friday to prevent the distribution of unreleased recordings purportedly made during Ringo Starr's first performance with the group in 1962.

The dispute between Apple Corps Ltd., the London company formed by the Beatles that helps guard their legacy, and Fuego Entertainment Inc. of Miami Lakes stems from recordings the Fab Four apparently made during a performance at the Star Club in Hamburg, Germany.

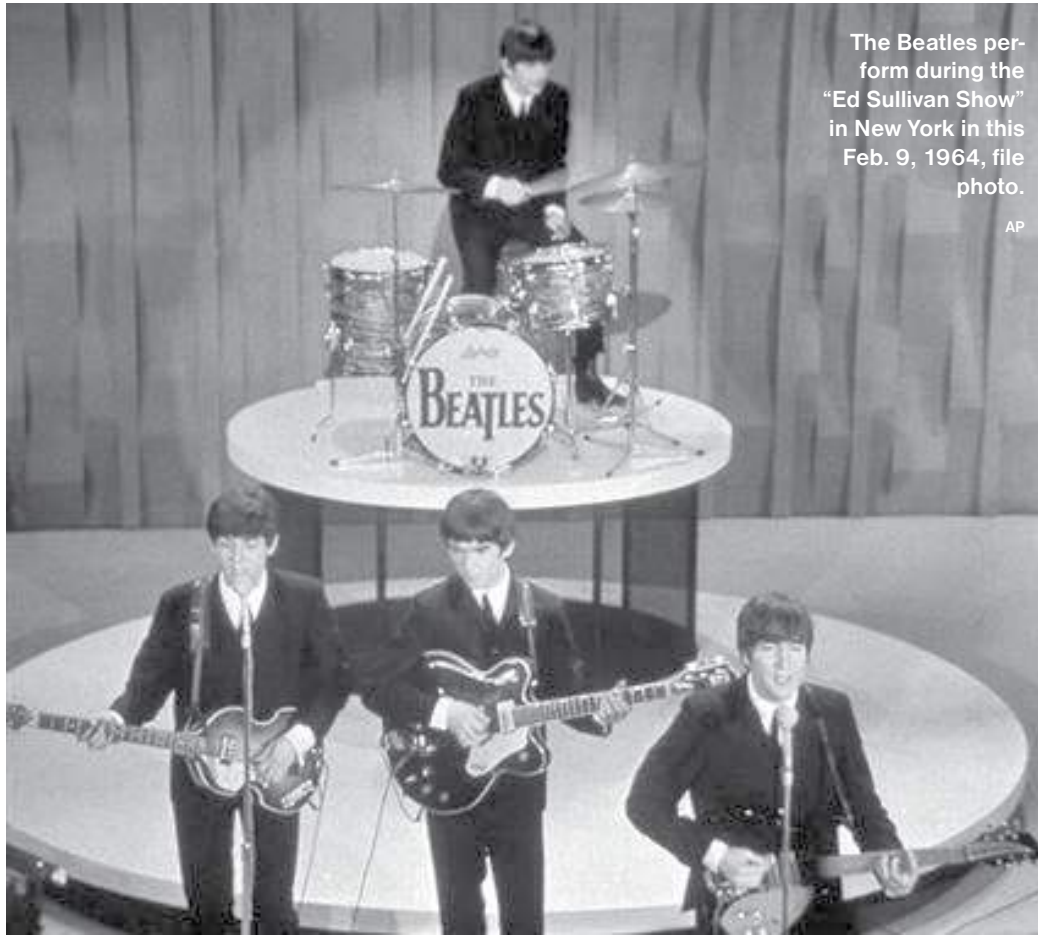
Eight unreleased tracks are said to be among the recordings, including Paul McCartney singing Hank Williams' "Lovesick Blues" and McCartney and John Lennon singing "Ask Me Why."

Apple Corps claims that the songs were taped without the consent of the band and that Fuego and sister companies Echo-Fuego Music Group LLC and Echo-Vista Inc. have no right to distribute them.

"This appears to us to be a garden-variety bootleg recording," said Paul LiCalsi, an attorney for Apple Corps.

But Fuego Entertainment says the recordings were legally made. "Don't claim that these were just bootlegged," said Fuego president Hugo Cancio. "It's not like today, that you just go in with a phone or a blackberry and you record."

The lawsuit contends that the



recordings are of poor quality and that circulating them "dilutes and tarnishes the extraordinarily valuable image associated with the Beatles."

Cancio said that he had not been served with a copy of the lawsuit, but that the filing demanding at least \$15 million in damages was not expected.

"I'm surprised because up to a few weeks ago, we were in good-faith conversations with Apple," he said.

Also named in the lawsuit is Jeffrey Collins, a partner of Cancio who obtained the recordings. It's unclear how Collins obtained the recordings.

Cancio intended to release

the songs as "Jammin' with The Beatles and Friends, Star Club, Hamburg, 1962."

"It's unfair to millions of Beatles fans not to allow this recording to be put out. The world deserves to hear these tracks," he said. "The fact is that we have it; they don't, and that is what's bothering them."

## British writer denied entry to US

LONDON (AP)—British writer and self-styled dandy Sebastian Horsley was denied entry to the United States after arriving to promote his memoir of sex, drugs and flamboyant fashion.

Horsley said he was questioned for eight hours Tuesday by border officials at Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey before being denied entry on grounds of "moral turpitude."

The 45-year-old author was traveling to New York for the U.S. launch of "Dandy in the Underworld," his account of a life dedicated to sex, drugs and finely tailored clothes.

"I was dressed flamboyantly - top hat, long velvet coat, gloves," Horsley said. "My one concession to American sensibilities was to remove my nail polish. I thought that would get me through."

According to Lucille Cirillo, a spokeswoman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Horsley was traveling under the CBP's visa waiver program, which entitles citizens of some countries - mostly in the European Union - to enter the United States for business or leisure without applying for a visa. Travelers can be refused entry if they admit on a customs form to being convicted of a crime or to being addicted to narcotics, Cirillo said.

She declined to specify what responses Horsley listed on the form.

"We interviewed the individual extensively and the CBP officers decided he was not admissible under the visa waiver program," she said.

Horsley can still apply for a visa to return to the United States, Cirillo said.

"They knew more about me than I did," Horsley said Thursday in an interview from his London home. "They said, 'We know you're a heroin addict, we know you're a crack addict, we know you're involved in prostitution.'"

Horsley's book—billed as an "unauthorized autobiography"—vividly recounts years of heavy drug use and frequent visits to prostitutes. He says he has been drug-free for three years.

He said his only conviction stemmed from an arrest 25 years ago for possession of amphetamine sulfate, for which he was given a conditional discharge. He said he has visited the United States seven or eight times without incident.

"Dandy in the Underworld" was released in Britain last year to good reviews. Carrie Kania, of the book's U.S. publisher Harper Perennial, an imprint of HarperCollins, said the book was "a cautionary tale of a life lived vividly."

## DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

*In Loving Memory of*

**DANIEL JOSEPH O'CONNOR III**

**Better Known As: Dan**

Born to Life on December 10, 1948.

Daniel was called by his Creator on March 14, 2008

*In paradise, he will join his*

**Father:** Daniel Joseph O'Connor II

*Survived by:*

**Wife:** Emma R. O'Connor

**Mother:** Louise O'Connor

**Brother:** Paul O'Connor

**Daughter:** Mary Elizabeth O'Connor

**Stepson:** Jemmeniel Recorte

*Dan also leaves behind numerous friends and he will be greatly missed by his PTI family and friends.*

Nightly rosary is being prayed at 6:00 p.m. at the family residence in Susupe behind Calvo's Nursery. Viewing will be held on Monday, March 24, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at San Jose Parish. His remains will be flown to the Philippines Tuesday morning.

Your presence and prayers are appreciated.

**Emma O'Connor & Family**



In this undated image provided by ABC, the cast and crew of "General Hospital" gather as the ABC daytime drama commemorates the series' 45th Anniversary at ABC's Prospect Studios in Los Angeles.

## 'GH' celebrates its 45th anniversary

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's been 45 years since "General Hospital" began dispensing heavy doses of drama to TV viewers.

Since 1963, ABC's longest-running daytime series has documented the trials and tribulations of Port Charles' citizens, carving an unprecedented television niche with intrigue and illness - long before "ER," "House" and "Grey's Anatomy" graduated from medical school.

"You don't get to 45 years just because you're lucky," executive producer Jill Farren Phelps told The Associated Press as the cast and crew celebrated GH's April 1 birthday with punch and cake on the show's hospital set at ABC's Prospect Studios.

Leslie Charleson and Jane El-

liot reminisced about playing feuding sisters-in-law Monica and Tracy Quartermaine for over 30 years. Since arriving in 1977, Charleson's cardiologist character has given up a child for adoption, become a hit woman, been held hostage and battled breast cancer.

The actresses agree their characters have been through it all - usually more than once.

"We have such history," Eliot said. "We have births, deaths, marriages, divorces, birthdays, birthdays and birthdays that we've shared. When we look at each other on camera, you sometimes can't tell if Monica and Tracy are responding to each other or if Jane and Leslie are responding to each other. It's not the characters but the history that's there."

"The two of us had a fight scene the other day, and there was a gentleman who was there to serve us papers," said Charleson, who's been on the show continuously for 31 years. "He informed us as we were standing there that he had done exactly the same thing 17 years ago to the two of us. You don't get a history like that anywhere else."

Stars such as Demi Moore, John Stamos, Ricky Martin and Rick Springfield got their start on "General Hospital." A-list fan Elizabeth Taylor famously guest-starred as the malicious Helena Cassadine at supercouple Luke and Laura's wedding in 1981, one of television's most popular moments, attracting 30 million people.



# Curtis shows some skin on AARP mag cover

NEW YORK (AP)—Jamie Lee Curtis went shirtless to pose for AARP The Magazine.

Curtis is shown sporting gray hair and wading in water up to her chest on the cover of the magazine's May/June issue, which will be available Monday.

The star of "True Lies," "A Fish Called Wanda" and other films becomes eligible for membership in AARP, the nonprofit organization for people 50 and over, when she celebrates her birthday Nov. 22.

"I want to be older," she tells the magazine. "I actually think there's an incredible amount of self-knowledge that comes with getting older. I feel way better now than I did when I was 20. I'm stronger, I'm smarter in every way, I'm so much less crazy than I was then."

Curtis, who is married to Christopher Guest and the mother of two children, says she reached a turning point two years ago when a tabloid published a photo of her and gave her weight as 161 pounds.

"I was like, 'How dare you—I'm not 161 pounds!' I was indig-



In this image released by AARP, Jamie Lee Curtis is shown on the cover of the May/June 2008 issue of "AARP The Magazine," on sale at newsstands Monday, March 24.

nant. I got home and I went on a scale and I was 161 pounds. I was in denial about it," she says.

"So I started a really healthy way of eating, just avoiding things that I had been shoving in my mouth. Over the course of a year, I dropped about 20 pounds," Curtis says.

"Now, I get up at (5 a.m.) every day, filled with energy. I play tennis three times a week, and I do yoga."

Curtis says growing older means paring down to an essential version of yourself.

"I've let my hair go gray. I wear only black and white. Every year I buy three or four black dresses that I just keep in rotation. I own one pair of blue jeans. I've given away all my jewelry, because I don't wear it," she says.

What about her life would she do over?

"I've been an inconsistent parent at times, and it's my greatest regret," she says. "When my daughter was small, I worked too much. I was replicating what my own mother (Janet Leigh) did."

## Lawsuit claims Oprah audience got rough

CHICAGO (AP)—A woman claims in a lawsuit that she was injured in a dash for seats at Oprah Winfrey's talk show in Chicago.

Orit Greenberg's lawsuit seeks some \$50,000 in damages. Greenberg claims Harpo Studios failed to control the audience on Dec. 5, 2006.

The lawsuit says audience members were told to sit wherever they wanted. The crowd allegedly pushed Greenberg down a flight of stairs, causing "severe and permanent injuries."

A Harpo Studios spokeswoman tells The Associated Press the studio doesn't comment on pending litigation.



Winfrey

## 'Buffy' cast reunites at Paley festival

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Buffy the Vampire Slayer" was resurrected for one night only.

The cast of the popular supernatural series, which ran from 1997 to 2003 on The WB and then UPN, were in good spirits Thursday while reuniting for a panel discussion at the William S. Paley Television Festival. That doesn't mean fans should expect the gang to get back together on screen.

"So many stars would have to align," creator Joss Whedon said about the possibility of a new "Buffy" project.

For seven seasons, the slayer and company battled vampires, demons, werewolves, high school and other forces of darkness with tongue planted firmly in cheek. "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," based on the movie of the same



Actor Seth Green, right, and actress Sarah Michelle Gellar pose on the press line at the Buffy the Vampire Slayer reunion and panel discussion at PaleyFest 2008 in Los Angeles on Thursday, March 20, 2008.

on a movie that wasn't all that," the 30-year-old actress said.

## Lawsuit settled over Beach Boys name

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Two former members of the Beach Boys settled a five-year legal dispute over use of the band's name, a lawyer said.

Al Jardine and Mike Love reached an agreement after a two-day conference in Superior Court, attorney Lawrence Noble, who represents Jardine, said Thursday. Details of the settlement were not disclosed.

"Mr. Jardine feels very happy

and feels that this is a friendly settlement that allows them to focus on the talent and future of this American iconic band," Noble said.

Love sued Jardine in 2003, claiming he fronted a group that used various versions of the Beach Boys name. The lawsuit said Love was the sole licensee to perform under the name, and that Jardine was denied use because he did not agree to abide

by terms of a proposed license.

Love was seeking \$2 million in court costs and \$1 million he said Jardine collected from using the name.

A judge ruled in January that the case could go to trial. It was set to begin April 14.

The Beach Boys were founded in 1961 by brothers Brian, Carl and Dennis Wilson, their cousin Love and Brian Wilson's friend Jardine.

## Husband refuses to give wife the child she intensely craves

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: "Brett" and I have been married for six years. We have no children, although I would dearly love to have one. Brett has a child from a previous relationship.

When I bring up the subject of having a child, he agrees, but when I tell him I am ovulating, he says he's too tired to try, or he makes up another excuse.

I have asked for a divorce several times, but Brett says he will not divorce me. This is extremely frustrating for me. He knows I am taking prenatal pills and buying ovulation kits. I have also threatened to get artificially inseminated or to adopt. I feel as if I'm living in hell. What do I do?

ACHING TO BE A MOMMY

DEAR ACHING: Forget about artificial insemination or adopting without your husband's support, unless you are ready to raise a child by yourself. Your husband has serious issues about becoming a father again, and it's time you found out what they are. Marriage counseling might help you get to the bottom of it.

That said, you do not need your husband's permission to end this marriage. If you have reached your limit, consult an attorney who specializes in family law. If you married Brett with the understanding that there would be children, you may qualify for an annulment.

DEAR ABBY: I work in retail, and I'm having a problem I am not sure how to handle. Customers almost constantly touch my hands and shoulders. I feel it is an intentional invasion of my personal space.

Many customers have grabbed me by the arm to pull me with them to find where certain items are located. I have a friendly face, and I'm willing to help people, but I do not like being touched. What can I say to make it clear to customers that this is not OK?

NICKI IN MARYLAND

DEAR NICKI: Discuss this with your supervisor, and ask if your employer has a policy in place regarding touching. One way to solve the problem would be to make sure to stay out of arm's reach. Another might be to see if there is something else you can do in the store that would give you less contact with customers.

If that's not possible, consider looking for a job in something other than retail. But to tell someone that a touch on the hand, arm or shoulder is unwelcome could lose you—and the store—a customer, and I don't recommend it.

DEAR ABBY: I am newly married and have discovered how skilled my husband's family is at finding the cloud in every silver lining.

What advice can you offer so I can diplomatically steer our conversations toward more positive topics? With Easter here, please help me maintain my sanity around these sour relatives.

SUNNY-SIDE UP, ALTOONA, PA.

DEAR SUNNY: When your in-laws raise an unpleasant subject, try this. Smile and say, "This is such a wonderful occasion. Let's have a good time and talk about happy things!" Then change the subject.

TO MY CHRISTIAN READERS: Happy Easter, everyone!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



AP

British film director Anthony Minghella arrives for the European premiere of the film "The Last King of Scotland" for the first screening for the 50th anniversary of the London Film Festival, in London's Leicester Square in this Oct. 18, 2006 file photo.

## Film fest seeks new jury chairman

HONG KONG (AP)—Organizers of the 11th Shanghai International Film Festival are looking for a new jury chairman following the death of Anthony Minghella.

"This (Minghella's death) happened so suddenly. We're in the process of looking for a replacement," festival spokeswoman Crystal Yu told The Associated Press in a phone interview Friday.

The British filmmaker, who won an Oscar for "The English Patient," died Tuesday in London of a hemorrhage following surgery. He was 54. He also directed "Cold Mountain" and "The Talented Mr. Ripley."

Yu said the festival, scheduled for June 14-22, plans to stage a retrospective of Minghella's works.

The Shanghai event announced its selection of Minghella as jury chairman in February.



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## Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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ing not provided; self provided food;  
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Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Workers compensation provided. Contact: Blue Horizon Ent., Inc. dba Blue Horizon @233-7871.

**1 SPORTS INSTRUCTOR**  
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**1 ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN**  
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1 COMMERCIAL CLEANER  
(SUNT 0027)  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Work-  
ers compensation. Contact: Dasan  
Corp. dba New Downtown Market  
@233-7755.

1 MECHANIC (SUNT 0028)  
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arranged housing; worksmen compensation & free medical expense.  
Contact: Fabriclean of CNMI Inc.  
dba Marianas Cleaners @234-5323/6239.

**1 DRY CLEANER SPECIALIST**  
(SUNT 0029)  
Salary:\$4.25/hour. Benefits: Self  
arranged housing; worksmen  
compensation & free medical.  
Contact: Fabriclean of CNMI Inc.  
dba Marianas Cleaners @234-  
6239/5323.

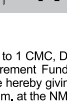
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(SUNT 0030)  
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pensation & medical expense.  
Contact: Saipan Yamas Co., Inc.  
dba Saipan Limousine Service  
@322-0239.

**1 FARM WORKER (FSUN 0067)**  
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**1 OFFSET PRESS OPERATOR**  
**(FSUN 0068)**  
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compensation. Contact: Tropical  
Instant Press, Inc. @234-6267.

**1 COMMERCIAL CLEANER**  
**(FSUN 0069)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self arranged housing; self provided food; medical under workers compensation. Contact: D&C Corporation @287-3622.

**1 GARDENER (FSUN 0070)**  
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# RETIREMENT FUND

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its Regular meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., at the NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.

**AGENDA**

<b>I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS</b>		
A. Call to Order		
B. Roll Call		
C. Installation of New Member – Oath of Office		
1. Benedicta C. Tenorio		
D. Adoption of Agenda		
E. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting:		
1. February 15, 2008	2. February 22, 2008	
<b>II. PUBLIC COMMENTS</b>		
<b>III. REPORTS</b>		
A. Report of the Chairman		
1. ROC No. 08-005		
B. Report of the Administrator / Correspondence		
1. ROA No. 08-005		
C. Report of the Comptroller		
1. Financials		
a) NMRF b) GH/LITF		c) WCC
D. Reports of the Committees		
1. Finance & Investment Committee		
2. Operations & Personnel Committee		
3. Policies, Programs & Legislative Review Committee		
4. GH&L and WCC Committee		
E. Reports of the Investment Director		
1. Status of Investment/Market Condition		
2. Report of Housing Loan Program		
3. CGECU		
F. Communications		
G. Other Matters		
<b>IV. LEGAL MATTERS</b>		
A. Reports of the Legal Counsels		
1. Report of the Board Counsel		
a) Lawsuit		
2. Report of the In-house Counsel		
a) Update on Administrative Appeals		
3. Report of the Hearing Officer		
<b>V. OLD BUSINESS</b>		
1. BR 08-001 Matters		
2. Pension Application Matters		
a) P.L. 15-98	b) Disability Applicants	
3. DC Plan Update Report		
4. Rota and Tinian office space & PSS Lease Status		
5. OPA Audit and External Audit Updates		
6. Employer Contribution Non-Receipt & Impact Matters		
7. RFP 08-046 – Wrap Fee		
<b>VI. NEW BUSINESS</b>		
1. Drawdown Request		
a) February 21, 2008	b) March 06, 2008	
2. P.L. 13-60 Board Certification – Physicians and Counselors of Vocational Rehabilitation		
3. Pension Obligation Bonds		
4. S.L.I. No. 16-08		
5. Health Insurance Open Enrollment		
<b>VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION</b>		
<b>VIII. MISCELLANEOUS</b>		
A. Announcements	B. Next Meeting	C. Adjournment

/s/ JUAN T. GUERRERO  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**Saipan Tribune**

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Guard files sex harassment suit vs principal. PAGE 3

2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAGE 5

**There is still hope for nonimmigrant status**

all alien workers in the CNMI who are appealing to U.S. lawmakers to retain the provision in the federalization bills that would grant nonimmigrant status to long-term alien workers.

In her message, expected to be read during today's prayer vigil at the American Memorial Park's Amphitheater, Doromal urged alien workers to "stand strong" as she vowed to continue supporting them "until the fight is won."

See DOROMAL on Page 4

**joins Micronesia**

**OPINION METER**

This week's poll:  
With what you know of the situation...

**RELATED NEWS**

- US military studies new building, PAGE 3
- New law...



# Dice-K mania resurfaces in Japan



**TOKYO (AP)**—Terry Francona knows how Daisuke Matsuzaka must be feeling when thousands of fans go wild for him in his native land.

Well, sort of.

The Red Sox manager is, after all, the pride of New Brighton, Pa. When he goes back there for a banquet, the crowd goes wild.

"I know how I feel," Francona said. "It's 6,000 people and you're returning home (to) people that you went to high school with. It's a big deal. Well, he's coming back to a country."

Nowhere is Matsuzaka more likely to sense his popularity in Japan after his first season away from his homeland than in Tokyo Dome on Tuesday. He is scheduled to pitch against Oakland in the first game of the major league season in a stadium where he made his impressive pro debut nine years earlier.

"I've heard stories about how loud it gets in this place," Boston pitcher Clay Buchholz said. "I'm looking forward to it."

First baseman Kevin Youkilis had a simpler description: "Dice-K Mania."

Matsuzaka is a big reason major league baseball insisted on Boston making the trip. He was brilliant in eight seasons with Seibu, then signed a \$52 million contract with the Red Sox after they bid \$51.1 million for the right to negotiate with him.

He had a successful first season in a strange country - 15-12 with a 4.40 ERA and a win in Game 3 of the World Series sweep over Colorado.

On Friday, he sat at a table with the logos of nine corporate sponsors on the backdrop and the championship trophy on a podium to his left. It was the first news conference of Major League Baseball's third season-opening trip to Japan.



Boston Red Sox pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka, right, collects balls, followed by teammate pitcher Kyle Snyder during the team's batting practice for the Major League regular season openers at Tokyo Dome in Tokyo, Japan, Friday, March 21, 2008. The Red Sox will meet the Oakland Athletics in the two-day series in Japan on March 25 and 26.

The Red Sox, who also have Japanese reliever Hideki Okajima, and Athletics had exhibition games against Japanese teams scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. They'll meet each other Tuesday and Wednesday nights in the first two games of the season.

In the first game, Matsuzaka faces Joe Blanton. In the second, Jon Lester goes against Rich Harden.

"After I went to the U.S. I thought that perhaps one day I'd have the opportunity to pitch a game here in Japan, but I certainly didn't expect it to hap-

pen here in the second year," Matsuzaka said through a translator.

"When we found out that we most likely would be coming to Japan part way through last season, at that point I very strongly felt that I'd like to come back here as a World Series champion."

While he is the big draw - Oakland has no Japanese-born players - the Athletics let it be known that there are two major league teams visiting this baseball-mad nation.

"They are just peers of ours," Oakland closer Huston Street said. "We're definitely not intimidated. We came over here and we expect to win. To have the World Series champions here is nice for the series, but we want to win."

Oakland almost made it to Japan five years ago. A scheduled 2003 series between the A's and the Seattle Mariners at Tokyo Dome was canceled because of the threat of war in Iraq.

"I'm excited to get another opportunity," second baseman Mark Ellis said.

There was a chance Matsuzaka wouldn't make it because his wife was pregnant in Boston. But she gave birth to a son, their second child, last Saturday and he left from Fort Myers, Fla., the team's spring training site, with the other players on Wednesday.

"It was not easy leaving my newborn son behind, and I certainly felt some sadness and loneliness parting ways with him," he said, "but my family were very supportive."

So Dice-K is here. The fans and frenzy have followed.

After Boston's workout Friday, about two dozen cameramen swarmed him and four boom mikes hovered overhead as he answered questions in front of his dugout.

Imagine how it will be when the Tokyo Dome is filled on Tuesday night and Matsuzaka is on the mound.

"For a while I wasn't sure that I was going to be able to make the trip," he said, "but everything worked out well and I'm glad to be here and, most especially, glad to be able to pitch in person, live in front of all the Japanese fans."

## Bonds' case delayed 3 months

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**—The perjury case against Barry Bonds was put on hold for three months Friday, with prosecutors telling a federal judge they plan to obtain a new indictment against baseball's home run king.

U.S. District Judge Susan Illston had told prosecutors on Feb. 29 to fix their original indictment because it lumped multiple allegations into too few counts. Illston said that prosecutors needed to drop some of the allegations from the indictment or add more charges.

At a brief court hearing Friday, assistant U.S. attorney Matt Parrella didn't say when the government will ask a grand jury for a new indictment. Illston ordered the sides to return to court June 6, making it likely any trial would not start before 2009.

Eight people connected to the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative (BALCO) have pleaded guilty, including track star Marion Jones, who began a six-month sentence in federal prison on March 7. Jones pleaded guilty to lying to federal investigators when she denied using performance-enhancing drugs and admitted lying to investigators about her association with a check-fraud scheme.

The trial of Tammy Thomas, an elite cyclist also accused of perjury, is scheduled to begin Monday.

Bonds was indicted in November on four counts of perjury and one count of



Barry Bonds arrives at the San Francisco Federal Building in San Francisco, in this Dec. 7, 2007 file photo. The stench of steroids is never far away, as federal prosecutors take aim at seven-time MVP Barry Bonds and seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens.

obstruction of justice, charges stemming from 2003 grand-jury testimony in which he denied knowingly taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs.

Bonds was let go by the San Francisco Giants. The 43-year-old outfielder remains a free agent and wants to play this year.

## Chamberlain heading to Yankees' bullpen

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)**—Joba Chamberlain will begin the season in the New York Yankees' bullpen.

"We think that's where he fits best right now," manager Joe Girardi said Wednesday.

For much of spring training, Chamberlain was a contender for a spot in the starting rotation. He was a starter in college and the minors before New York switched him to a relief role last year and called him up in August to boost its shaky bullpen.

When asked if Chamberlain would go back to the setup role he thrived in as a rookie last season, Girardi refused to be specific. But he did say Chamberlain would pitch late in games.

"He's a back-end guy. That's how I'm going to classify him," Girardi said.

The 22-year-old right-hander had prepared as a starter this spring, but wasn't surprised by the decision.

"I had an idea if everybody stayed healthy this would happen," he said. "It's best for the team right now. It's about winning games. It's not about Joba Chamberlain."

The Yankees' projected rotation includes Chien-Ming Wang, Andy

Pettitte, Mike Mussina, Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy.

The team said it still expects Chamberlain to be a starter down the road, but Girardi wouldn't commit to saying it would happen this season.

"We have not got that far," Girardi said. "I'm going to put it this way, we consider him a starter in the future. I don't want to be locked into a timetable. You know that's my personality."

Chamberlain started Saturday against Detroit in a split-squad game and allowed three runs and four hits in three innings. He has a 6.14 ERA in 7 1-3 innings this spring.

Chamberlain is scheduled to pitch out of the bullpen Thursday and Saturday. He is expected to work on consecutive days next week.

"I really wasn't wondering at all," Chamberlain said. "It's great not only to know, but just to get your routine going. The routine is going to be the hardest part. Sitting there (in the bullpen) and when the inning comes up, get ready."

Chamberlain went 2-0 with a 0.38 ERA and one save in 19 games last season. He struck out 34 and walked six in 24 innings.



# James is Cavs' new scoring leader

**CLEVELAND(AP)**—Already a supreme scorer, LeBron James is second to none.

James passed Brad Daugherty as Cleveland's career scoring leader in the first quarter and finished with 29 points, leading the Cavaliers to a 90-83 win over the Toronto Raptors on Friday night in a possible first-round playoff preview.

In just his fifth NBA season, James moved to the top of the franchise's scoring chart, a remarkable achievement for a remarkable player whose potential seems limitless.

He scored 23 points in the second half, including 11 in the final 7:19 as the Cavaliers won their ninth straight at home.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 16 points, Devin Brown scored 14 and Damon Jones knocked down two crucial 3-pointers early in the fourth for Cleveland, which opened a 4½-game lead over the Raptors for the No. 4 spot in the Eastern Conference.

Toronto's Chris Bosh scored 24 points in his second game back after missing 10 with a sore knee.

Cleveland's Ben Wallace went out with back spasms in the third and didn't return. He missed a game last week with the same problem.

## Rockets 109, Warriors 106

At Oakland, California, Tracy McGrady scored 26 points, Bobby Jackson hit an improbable 3-pointer and the Rockets



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James, right, is defended by Toronto Raptors' Anthony Parker during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game Friday, March 21, 2008, in Cleveland. James scored 29 points to become the franchise scoring leader and the Cavaliers won their ninth straight home game 190-83.

got back to their winning ways.

Houston had lost two straight following a 22-game winning streak that was the second longest in NBA history.

The power-packed Western Conference gave the Rockets little cushion and a third straight loss would have dropped them into a tie for sixth place with San Antonio in the conference.

Instead, they rode the all-around play from McGrady and clutch shooting from Jackson to move within percentage points of New Orleans for the lead in the Southwest Division.

Baron Davis scored 27 points and Monta Ellis added 24 to lead the Warriors.

## Lakers 130, SuperSonics 105

At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant scored 23 points and seven of his teammates also scored in double digits as Los Angeles sent Seattle to its 10th straight loss.

The Western Conference-leading Lakers returned to Staples Center from an arduous 2-2 road trip that concluded with victories over Dallas and Utah—who were a combined 58-8 at home before they got there.

## Grizzlies 120, Knicks 106

At New York, Mike Miller scored 24 of his 34 points in the first half, and Memphis snapped

an 18-game road losing streak.

Rudy Gay added 24 points for the Grizzlies, who stormed to a 19-point halftime lead, blew it all before the end of the third quarter, then pulled away again for their first win outside Memphis since beating Indiana on Jan. 2.

## Nuggets 125, Nets 114

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Allen Iverson scored 26 points and led a fourth-quarter spurt that carried Denver to the win.

Backup forward Linas Kleiza added 23 points and Marcus Camby had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets.

## Spurs 102, Kings 89

At San Antonio, Tim Duncan had 21 points and 13 rebounds to lead San Antonio to the victory.

Tony Parker added 19 points for the Spurs, who have won two straight after snapping a season-high four-game losing streak Thursday in Chicago.

## Pacers 124, Timberwolves 113

At Indianapolis, Danny Granger scored 32 points and Indiana earned its fifth straight victory at Conseco Fieldhouse.

Mike Dunleavy finished with 25 points and seven assists and Troy Murphy added 22 points and 15 rebounds for the Pacers.

## Wizards 103, Heat 86

At Miami, Caron Butler scored 25 points and Antawn Jamison added 22 points and 10 rebounds for Washington.

Butler eclipsed the 20-point

mark for the first time in five games since returning from a strained hip flexor that kept him out of the previous 16 games.

## Magic 113, 76ers 95

At Orlando, Florida, Rashard Lewis scored 18 points, leading eight Magic players in double figures.

Louis Williams scored 18 for Philadelphia, Andre Iguodala added 14 points and reserve Rodney Carney had 11 points.

## Trail Blazers 107, Clippers 102

At Portland, Ore., LaMarcus Aldridge had 22 points, 12 rebounds and a career-high seven assists to lead the Trail Blazers to the win.

Brandon Roy added 21 points and six assists, Martell Webster had 16 points and Steve Blake had 15 points and 11 assists for Portland, which has slim playoff hopes.

### TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA SCORES								
EASTERN CONFERENCE					Robert Karlsson	68	70	138
Atlantic Division					Jeev M. Singh	68	70	138
	W	L	Pct	GB	Anders Hansen	67	71	138
y-Boston	55	13	.809		Miguel A. Jimenez	65	74	139
Toronto	35	34	.507	20 1/2	Steve Stricker	71	68	139
Philadelphia	34	35	.493	21 1/2	Mark Calcavecchia	68	71	139
New Jersey	29	40	.420	26 1/2	Soren Kjeldsen	69	71	140
New York	19	49	.279	36	Luke Donald	68	72	140
Southeast Division					Andres Romero	68	72	140
x-Orlando	46	25	.648		Retief Goosen	71	69	140
Washington	35	33	.515	9 1/2	Chapchai Nirat	70	70	140
Atlanta	29	39	.426	15 1/2	Jim Furyk	69	71	140
Charlotte	24	44	.353	20 1/2	Stewart Cink	66	74	140
Miami	12	56	.176	32 1/2	K.J. Choi	70	70	140
Central Division					Woody Austin	70	70	140
x-Detroit	49	19	.721		Tim Clark	71	69	140
Cleveland	40	30	.571	10	J.B. Holmes	69	72	141
Indiana	28	41	.406	21 1/2	Graeme Storm	71	70	141
Chicago	27	41	.397	22	Zach Johnson	69	72	141
Milwaukee	23	44	.343	25 1/2	Scott Verplank	71	70	141
WESTERN CONFERENCE					Ross Fisher	68	73	141
Southwest Division					Vijay Singh	73	68	141
New Orleans	46	21	.687		Justin Rose	70	71	141
Houston	47	22	.681		Phil Mickelson	67	74	141
San Antonio	46	23	.667	1	Niclas Fasth	72	69	141
Dallas	44	25	.638	3	Toru Taniguchi	68	73	141
Memphis	17	51	.250	29 1/2	Stephen Ames	73	68	141
Northwest Division					Ryuji Imada	68	73	141
Utah	45	25	.643		Sergio Garcia	69	73	142
Denver	41	28	.594	3 1/2	Mike Weir	73	69	142
Portland	36	33	.522	8 1/2	Nick O'Hern	67	75	142
Minnesota	17	51	.250	27	Gregory Havret	68	74	142
Seattle	16	53	.232	28 1/2	Arron Oberholser	72	70	142
Pacific Division					Daniel Chopra	72	70	142
L.A. Lakers	48	21	.696		Martin Kaymer	68	74	142
Phoenix	46	22	.676	1 1/2	Graeme McDowell	72	71	143
Golden State	42	26	.618	5 1/2	Ian Poulter	71	72	143
Sacramento	31	37	.456	16 1/2	Lee Westwood	71	72	143
L.A. Clippers	21	47	.309	26 1/2	Aaron Baddeley	69	74	143
x-clinched playoff spot					Justin Leonard	69	74	143
y-clinched division					Camilo Villegas	71	72	143
					Nick Dougherty	70	73	143
					Brett Wetterich	70	74	144
					Brandt Snedeker	74	70	144
					Trevor Immelman	70	74	144
					Robert Allenby	69	75	144
					Stuart Appleby	73	71	144
					Henrik Stenson	72	72	144
					Hunter Mahan	72	72	144
					Boo Weekley	72	73	145
					Paul Sheehan	72	73	145
					Charles Howell III	69	76	145
					John Rollins	74	71	145
					Peter Hanson	71	74	145
					Louis Oosthuizen	74	72	146
					Heath Slocum	74	72	146
					Richard Green	74	72	146
					Rory Sabbatini	72	74	146
					Paul Casey	72	75	147
					D.J. Trahan	74	73	147
					S.S.P. Chowrasia	74	73	147
					Mark Brown	73	74	147
					W.C. Liang	74	74	148
					Sean O'Hair	73	75	148
					Jonathan Byrd	74	74	148
					Andrew McLardy	74	74	148
					Richard Sterne	71	77	148
					Craig Parry	73	75	148
					Angel Cabrera	75	74	149
					James Kingston	74	75	149
					Ernie Els	74	75	149
					Colin Montgomerie	75	74	149
					Shingo Katayama	75	76	151
					Brendan Jones	76	75	151
					Anton Haig	72	80	152
					Soren Hansen	77	77	154
					By The Associated Press			

# Ogilvy stays in the lead at Doral

**DORAL, Florida (AP)**—Geoff Ogilvy was bogey-free over two days on the Blue Monster, saving par four times from the bunker Friday on his way to a 5-under 67 to remain atop the leaderboard at the CA Championship.

Ogilvy was one shot clear of Tiger Woods, who birdied his final two holes earlier for a 66.

Woods' last birdie on the par-3

ninth was a bending putt from just inside 25 feet that looked remarkably similar—minus the hat-spiking celebration—to his winning putt five days ago at Bay Hill that kept him undefeated since September. Woods raised the putter in his left hand when the ball still had some 8 feet left to reach the cup.

The roar was loud enough to make Masters champion Zach Johnson step away from his putt

across the lake on the 18th hole, but not quite loud enough to shake Ogilvy, who was still on the Blue Monster and patching together another solid round.

Ogilvy, who hasn't won since capturing the U.S. Open at Winged Foot in 2006, was at 12-under 132. He will be in the final group Saturday with Woods and Adam Scott, who hit into the bushes and the water on the last two holes to spoil a good

day. Scott had to settled for a 68, leaving him three shots behind.

Ogilvy and Scott are best friends, prompting Ogilvy to suggest some Australian voodoo to take down Woods.

"He's won these last however many golf tournaments," Ogilvy said. "He hasn't lost too many when in contention after two rounds. He hasn't lost too many at Doral. There's a lot of things in his favor."

# Seahawks give Tatupu new, \$42M deal

**KIRKLAND, Wash. (AP)**—Lofa Tatupu agreed to a \$42 million contract with Seattle that will keep the Pro Bowl linebacker with the Seahawks through the 2015 season.

"This isn't just Good Fri-

day. It's great Friday," Tatupu told Seahawks president Tim Ruskell upon finalizing the contract Friday.

"I'm going to end my career with the Seahawks."

The deal includes the final two years on the original contract he signed after being se-

lected in the second round out of Southern California in 2005, plus six more years worth a potential \$42 million.

Fletcher Smith, Tatupu's agent, said the deal includes about \$18 million in guaranteed money from 2008 to 2010.

Tatupu was supposedly too

slow and too short when he was the sixth linebacker taken in '05. Last season he became the second player in Seahawks' history to be named to the Pro Bowl in each of his first three years.

"I think I've exceeded a lot of people's expectations, but not my own," Tatupu said.

## LACK

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cost of Travel."

Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands president Elias Rangamar would like to send both the men's and

women's teams to the tournament if it would only cost them the airfare. "The last MBT in Guam, teams had to pay for airfare only. I think the time is too short to fundraise if teams are required to shoulder all costs."

BANMI secretary general Michael A. White, who is in constant

contact with the Pohnpei Organizing Committee, said organizers want the visiting teams to shoulder everything, which means aside from airfare the visiting teams would also pay for their own food, lodging, and transportation.

"[The organizing committee] feels that teams should be able to

get food and shelter from [groups or associations] from their own islands who are leaving in Pohnpei. For example, this works well for Chuuk but not so well for us," said White, who added the cost of airfare to Pohnpei is \$644 per person and BANMI could afford to subsidize the trip.



# The Week in Sports

## Saipan sweep for Noble and Bucher

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Andrew Noble of Australia and Switzerland's Renata Bucher completed their Saipan Sportsfest sweep winning the 19th Tagaman Triathlon and the Pacific Islands Club Double to guarantee their return for the 2008 edition.

Noble withstood the gallant stand of a returning Masayuki Matsumaru of Japan to successfully defend his Tagaman title, while Bucher finally won her first crown.

In the Tagakids, siblings Andrew, Sarah, and Matthew Klassen led the list of winners. The Tagakids took place simultaneously with the 19th Tagaman Triathlon at Micro Beach inside the American Memorial Park.

Andrew topped the 7-8 division while older brother Matthew topped the 11-12 division. Their sister, Sarah, was the top finisher in the 7-8 division.

Other winners are Gabbie Race, Cole Chambers, Misaki Cramer, and Michael Moran.

The Saipan Southern High School Manta Rays, meanwhile, swept the championships in the 2008 MISO Basketball League after beating separate opponents last week to claim the varsity and junior varsity crowns.

SSHS avenged its finals loss last year to the Marianas High School Dolphins in scoring a 115-103 win in the varsity division while their junior varsity squad downed the Kagman High School Ayuyus, 115-103, in separate finals matches at the MHS Gymnasium.

Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura, meanwhile, almost made it into the Top 20 of his age group in last weekend's 2008 Tokyo Junior Sprint Swim Meet, finishing 21st out of 103 in the competition held at the Tatsumi International Swimming Stadium in Tokyo, Japan.

Kimura gave a good account of himself swimming against the world's best 11-year-olds though, finishing the 50m breaststroke in 40.37, a lifetime best. He failed to advance to the final by a mere 1.5 seconds.

Tyrone Omar and Yvonne Bennett earned the Northern Marianas Athletics 2007 Athletes of the Year in the Open division.

Other awardees were Gabi Race and Jordan Manglona (10-and-under); Ashley Babauta and Angelo Jones (12-and-under); Reylynn Sapong and Lia Rangamar, and J.R. Concepcion (14-and-under); Jacque Wonenberg and Nate Mateo (18-and-under); and Mamiko Oshima (Roadrunner of the Year).

Raphael Zapanta won his second consecutive Bing Prince/Princess of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament while Simon Manacop and Ron Cal topped the Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes.

Jess "Mr. Unorthodox" Wabol also successfully defended his Championship Flight title in last Saturday's 6th Annual Mount Carmel Golf Tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The winners in the other flights were Yasu Irinaka (A), lady golfer Leina Kim (B), Frankie Pangelinan (C), Nick Sablan (Senior), and Sherlyn Jones (Ladies).



JON PEREZ

Andrew Noble of Switzerland answers questions from reporters after crossing the finish line of the 19th Tagaman Triathlon last week at American Memorial Park.



JON PEREZ

Renata Bucher of Switzerland steers her bike along the Last Command Post in Marpi in last week's 19th Tagaman Triathlon.



JON PEREZ

From left, Emily Jones, Taylor Knecht, and Gabrielle Race hold their certificates for being the nominees and top athletes in the girls' 10-and-under division in last Wednesday's Northern Marianas Athletics banquet at Kilili Beach pavilion.



JON PEREZ

Andrew Johnson, left, and Kasei Toda run side-by-side as they head towards the finish line in the Tagakids last week at the American Memorial Park.



JON PEREZ

Saipan Southern High School coach Joel Punzalan, right, celebrates with his players after receiving the championship trophy in the MISO Junior Varsity division last week.



JON PEREZ

Members of the MISO All-Star team, from left, Saipan Southern's Mike Eclevia, Mt. Carmel School's Kristian Aquino, SSJS' Manuel Ajoste, and Marianas High School's Jericho Cruz, pose for a group photo after receiving their medals. Not in photo is Not in photo is Kagman High School's Vince Terego.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Championship Flight winner Jess Wabol, right, and Andy Nepaial join two other golfers in last Saturday's 6th Annual Mount Carmel Golf Tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants of last Sunday's Bing Prince/Princess of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament pose for the camera at the Saipan Bowling Center in San Jose.



MARK RABAGO

Budweiser March King of the Lanes Simon Manacop, second from left, poses with runners-up, from left, Percy Omechalang and Raymond Angeles after the Saipan Bowling Association-organized competition last Monday at the Saipan Bowling Center. At right is SBA vice president Ador Dimaano.



Budweiser March Queen of the Lanes Ron Cal, second from left, poses with runners-up, from right, Gina Sablan and Yho Villavicencio after the Saipan Bowling Association-organized competition last Monday at the Saipan Bowling Center. At left is SBA vice president Ador Dimaano.

MARK RABAGO





## Dice-K mania resurfaces in Japan

Terry Francona knows how Daisuke Matsuzaka must be feeling when thousands of fans go wild for him in his native land. **25**

# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Saipan sweep for Noble and Bucher

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Lack of teams may cancel '08 MBT in Pohnpei

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The 2008 Micronesian Basketball Tournament is in danger of being canceled after only two countries have confirmed joining the annual games, which will be held in Kolonia, Pohnpei.

Jim Tobin, who co-chairs the 2008 MBT local organizing committee with Castro Joab, said only Guam and host Pohnpei have confirmed sending men's and women's teams after submitting their requirements before

the March 14 preliminary registration.



The CNMI, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, and the other three states of the Federated States of Micronesia—Chuuk, Kosrae, and Yap—have not yet pre-registered or are still undecided if they are going to compete or not.

Kosrae is hoping to send a men's team, while Palau requested the tournament be moved to next year to give them more time to prepare. Organiz-



Lack of funding will force the CNMI 6th Micronesian Games gold medal winning team out of the 2008 Micronesian Basketball Tournament in Kolonia, Pohnpei this year.

ers have yet to hear from the CNMI Chuuk, Yap, and the Marshall Islands.

Kiribati is asking for help on how to lessen their cost of going to Pohnpei. Organizers learned that Kiribati teams needed to fly to Fiji, thru Australia, and to Guam to reach Pohnpei.

The Kiribati delegation needed to have U.S. transit visas to get through Guam. The long trip to Pohnpei would cost \$2,800 in airfare for members. Nauru, which is near Kiribati, would also spend the same amount and that would make it hard for the two countries to join in this year's tournament.

Tobin and Joab also extended the preliminary registration deadline until March 28, Friday, to give the other island nations time to decide whether they would join or not.

"I see no reason to organize and hold the tournament if we cannot get at least six men's and four women's teams," said Tobin in an email.

He advised the other member federations in Micronesia to email him as soon as possible if they have no plans of joining. "We do understand everyone's financial problems and the high

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# Zheng beats Soriano in 9-ball

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSISTANT EDITOR



Zheng Jian Qing lost only a total of four games en route to winning the Top Pool Bar Professional 9-Ball Billiards Tournament last March 15 at the Garapan watering hole and sports bar.

The Top Pool Bar owner gave a portents of things to come when he downed Primo Ferrera, 4-1, in the opening round. Other first round winners were Jerry Soriano, R.J. Mascarnas, and Rolly Villanueva.

Soriano swept Luis "The Predator" Fajardo, 4-0; Mascarnas beat Erwin Gomez, 4-2; and Villanueva drubbed Robert Sanciango, 4-2.

In the second round, Zheng continued his strong play, this time dismissing the hard-hitting and veteran Villanueva, 4-2.

Soriano, meanwhile, joined Zheng in the finals after Mascarnas missed

a tough bank shot on the 9-ball in the sixth game that gave Soriano a chance to sink the 9-ball, which he did for the 4-2 victory.

In the finals, Zheng repeatedly burned Soriano with heady and accurate shots that kept the Saipan Ice and Water employee in his seat. Zheng dominated the matchup and went on to win the championship in a lopsided score of 4-1.

Zheng collected \$45 for his victory, while Soriano took home \$25 for the runner-up finish.

Zheng, who is also Top Pool Bar manager, is inviting all pool players on island to join them for their 9-ball tournament every Saturday. Entrance is \$10, which gives players the chance to practice for free on a regulation pool table before the tournament.

Companions of players at the tournament also get free time on Top Pool Bar's latest Karaoke system that plays four different language and uses a flat screen HD TV.

Top Pool Bar Professional 9-Ball

Billiards Tournament is held every Saturday and the entry fee is \$10.

The format is a race to four games. The venue's 8-ball tournament, meanwhile, has been moved to Thursday with also a \$10 entry fee. The 8-ball competition uses a double-elimination format. Both tournaments follow Billiards Congress of America rules.

The sports bar is reminding interested 8- and 9-ball players that early birds get a chance to practice for free on any of Top Pool Bar's full-size billiard tables an hour before the competition.

Top Pool Bar, located along Hotel Street Garapan a stone's throw away from the Paseo de Marianas, is as spacious as it is modern and boasts of two 9-1/2-by-5-foot tables usually found in professional tournaments abroad.

For more information on the ongoing 9-ball and 8-ball weekly competitions, call Zheng at 287-7676 or check out the competition's website at www.saipanero.com/bars/toppoolbar.

## Easter Egg Hunt

Happy Easter, everyone. How was your Easter egg hunt? Here are the results of mine.

The golden egg goes to all the volunteers who helped make Sports-Fest Week a success, especially Wolf Mojica who did a terrific job pulling it all together. Call him the Big Bunny for the way he hopped around getting everything done. The Xterra and Tagaman triathlons are a positive addition, now a tradition, to our sports calendar and I hope they are able to return next year as they showcase the best of Saipan: a world-class lagoon, rugged off-road terrain, beautiful scenery and friendly, dedicated people.

A silver egg goes to MCV for double-barreled coverage of the NCAA men's basketball tournament on channels 41 and 42, which is more than the average viewer gets in the mainland with one CBS feed.

But MCV did drop one egg last Wednesday when it failed to show TNT's live Celtics/Rockets game. The game was available on the satellite yet was inadvertently thru human oversight not put on the Ch. 42 schedule. As a result, we missed seeing the Celtics snap the Rockets historic 22-game winning streak.

If MCV dropped an egg last week, then Ch. 7 drops an egg every week by failing to show the NBA game of the week live on ABC. The Guam-based station shows the game live for their Guam viewers, but not for Saipan and Tinian. I was hoping to see the Lakers/Rockets last Monday while eating Spam, eggs and rice for

breakfast, instead got a washed-out (what's wrong with their color?), one week delayed Lakers/Spurs game that was ancient history. Why is that, when they could have been showing the live game if they really wanted to because it was available on the bird?

Let me explain for the uninitiated.

KPPI or Ch. 7 is carried by MCV but MCV has no control over their programming. Ch. 7 has the rights for ABC programming which means MCV cannot show ABC sports on Channel 42. But Ch. 7 has an exceed-

## OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN

Coldeen is a longtime sports journalist in the CNMI and is the news and sports director of the Flame Tree Network.



ingly small staff on Saipan. If a game comes on at 5:30 in the morning, then usually they don't bother to put it on because somebody has to get up early to switch to the satellite feed and insert breaks over AFN commercials.

While Ch. 7 made the extra effort to show all ABC college bowl games (thank you), they failed to show many college football games during the regular season that were available. And we are missing a lot of NBA games on ABC. I assume that is because they come on at 3 a.m. and/or 5:30 a.m. and it's easier for Ch. 7 not to show the games live than it is to show them.

The NBA finals are on ABC this year. Fortunately, they are on during prime-time in the USA which is 11 a.m. here which is a more convenient time for Ch. 7. Hopefully, we will get them live.

If we don't get NBA playoff games live, that will be the rotten egg.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Softball association plans fast-pitch league

The CNMI Softball Association is planning to hold an Island-wide Men's and Women's Fast-Pitch Softball League. Interested individuals, teams, and organizations should start preparing for the competition. The entrance fee has been tentatively set at \$800 per team plus individual membership. For more information, call Manny Tenorio at 285-8366. (CNMI-SA)

### UFO to gauge interest in cage league first

Rather than hold a meeting, coordinator Leo Canedo said the United Filipino Organization Basketball League will

first gauge the interest of teams that want to take part in the competition. Canedo said teams that want to take part in the 2008 season of the widely popular basketball league should call UFO secretary Olive Yana at 285-7893 to register.

Canedo earlier said that the UFO, the umbrella group of Filipino organizations on Saipan, hopes to revive the UFO Basketball League in late February or early March 2008. Canedo said like in previous stagings of the league, entry fee is \$700 and as many as 12 teams can be accommodated by the organization. Games likely will be held on weekends with two games slated for Saturday and a triple-header scheduled on Sunday. Canedo said interested teams must be affiliated with a UFO member organization and are allowed to carry the names of their sponsoring companies as well. (UFO)